

## Israeli police take over settlement

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (AP) — Police will turn a controversial Jewish settlement in the Muslim quarter of Jerusalem's Old City into a police sub-station, Israel Radio reported Monday. Five Jewish families representing the Ateret Cohanim settlers' group moved into two empty houses in the Muslim quarter three weeks ago, saying they had purchased the buildings from their original Arab owners. But the Israeli army said the sale was not valid, noting that it had confiscated the buildings in 1969 under emergency regulations, often used against Arabs. The settlers moved into the houses while Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin was in the United States seeking \$10 billion in U.S. loan guarantees, based on his reversal of the past cabinet's drive to move Jewish settlers to occupied lands. President George Bush opposes settlements in the occupied territories as obstacles to U.S.-backed peace talks. The two houses will now be used as a sub-station for police patrolling the area.



## Arabiya reports King doing well

AMMAN (J.T.) — A Jordanian delegation which visited His Majesty King Hussein at the Mayo Clinic last week returned home Monday saying the King was doing well after the successful surgery to remove a tumour from his urinary tract. Lower House of Parliament Speaker Abdul Latif Arabiyat, who headed the delegation, told the Jordan News Agency, Petra, that the results of the surgery were excellent and that the King wanted to convey his regards and profound gratitude to the people of Jordan for their concern over his health. Dr. Arabiyat said doctors at the Mayo Clinic explained to the delegation the nature of the King's ailment and emphasised that the surgery was a total cure. The King left the Mayo Clinic Saturday and is now recuperating. The delegation included several members of the Upper and Lower Houses of Parliament.

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## Political parties now legal

Sharif Zeid hails enactment of legislation

AMMAN (J.T.) — A Royal Decree was issued Monday, enacting a new law legalising political parties based since 1957. His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, acting as regent while His Majesty King Hussein is recovering from surgery in the U.S., signed the law endorsed last week by the Upper and Lower Houses of Parliament. Parties will be licensed with the approval of the Interior Ministry. At least 55 groups have announced that they want to be recognised as political parties. "Jordan has now achieved an important accomplishment on the way of building democracy which was founded by His Majesty King Hussein and supported by a national congress which endorsed the National Charter," Prime Minister Sharif Zeid said in a statement Monday.

"The law will enable Jordanians to have the chance for free responsible dialogue and to participate in the democratic process based on respect for law and order," he told the Jordan News Agency, Petra. "Political pluralism provided by the law constitutes a strong pillar of political action and the course of democracy in Jordan," the prime minister said. "Success of political pluralism lies in respect for the Constitution and in spirit of the National Charter."

Sharif Zeid said the law opens the door for all citizens in Jordan to conduct free and responsible dialogue and take part in a democratic process based on respect for law and order. He expressed hope that political parties, "will be truly national parties in their objectives, instruments, orientation and financing, and will place national interests at the top of their priorities so that Jordan can become a model democratic state."

The prime minister said that the next parliamentary elections would be based on political pluralism. In this context he urged political parties to embark on arrangements for assuming legal status as provided by the law. According to the law, political parties will be able to express their view freely and publish their own newspapers.



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## ESCWA debates HQ venue

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) Monday began debate on where to set up a permanent headquarters for the U.N. agency, and its executive secretary said a decision was expected by Thursday, before the end of the council's current session in Amman.

ESCWA was based in Beirut until the Lebanese civil war forced it to move to Baghdad, Iraq. The Gulf crisis and the subsequent war prompted its move to Amman in 1991. An immediate relocation to Baghdad is not possible in view of the continuing international embargo on Iraq. The Lebanese government, which argues that the civil war is over and calm has returned to Beirut, is demanding that ESCWA, which employs 340 people, move back to Beirut.

ESCWA Secretary-General Tayseer Abdul Jabbar said no decision was reached during Monday's closed-door discussions, but said a final decision would have been reached by Thursday. During Monday's regular sessions of the ESCWA conference, the 16th annual session of the agency, Jordan expressed its appreciation for an ESCWA proposal to set up a regional centre in Jordan for training in space science and technology.

Addressing the session, delegate Ahmad Hindawi said the government was keenly interested in hosting the centre and would extend all facilities required. The project, he said, has a direct impact on economic life in the Arab World since it could be used to carry out surveys on Arab water and mineral resources as well as crops and vegetation.

If it can help Arab governments in controlling environmental pollution and forecasting the weather conditions in addition to giving information to the concerned authorities dealing with natural disasters and various environmental activities, Mr. Hindawi added.

His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, sent a speech to the conference Sunday referring to the socio-economic development needed for ESCWA member nations. The session is slated to review the commission's programmes and projects planned for the period 1992-97 and will set priorities in a general framework in light of major developments in the region and the rest of the world.

Addressing the session Monday, the Syrian delegate demanded that ESCWA support Arab industries, particularly chemical and textile industries, through offering consultancy services. He also demanded that ESCWA conduct a study on the social and economic conditions of Syrian citizens living in the occupied Golan Heights.

The Palestine delegate demanded that statistical studies on living conditions of Palestinian people in the occupied territories be conducted by ESCWA. He also demanded that the commission find a way to stop Israel's (Continued on page 5)

## Peace talks resume with onus on Israel's self-rule proposals

Combined agency dispatches

ISRAELI NEGOTIATORS were awaiting a reply from their Palestinian counterparts Monday as Mideast peace talks entered a second week at the State Department in Washington. Israel last week proposed limited self-rule for the Palestinians in the occupied West Bank and Gaza. The plan also would involve an election next April or May of an "administrative" agency through which Palestinians would run their day-to-day lives. U.S. officials, serving as co-sponsors with Russia, have made no open effort to mediate differences in the talks. But Edward P. Djerejian, the assistant secretary of state for the Near East, has held separate meetings with negotiators. On Monday, he called in the Israelis.

Haider Abdul Shafi, the chief Palestinian negotiator, did not reply when he was asked if his side was ready to respond to the self-rule plan. Asked if the Israelis expected an answer, chief Israeli negotiator Elyakim Rubinstein, replied: "God willing." Later in the day, Israel was resuming negotiations separately with Syria and Jordan. Talks with Lebanon were to reopen on Tuesday. Chief Lebanese negotiator Suhail Shammus requested time to review his government's position. He accused Israel last Friday of causing an impasse by declining to negotiate a timetable for withdrawing from southern Lebanon. The current round opened last Monday with expressions of goodwill from Israeli and Arab negotiators. But no agreement was reached on any of the major issues.

The talks entered the second week with the idea of Israel and Syria negotiating an interim settlement on the road to a full peace treaty gaining ground. Arab and Israeli diplomats said the mechanism of an interim agreement could build confidence while helping the sides surmount the vexing question of full Israeli withdrawal from the Golan Heights, which Syria is demanding but Israel is not ready to concede. Both sides moved ahead in negotiations last week, their first meeting since a new, more flexible government under Prime Minister Hitzhak Rabin came to power. (Continued on page 5)

## New U.N. inspection team arrives in Iraq

Combined agency dispatches

U.N. WEAPONS experts arrived Monday for their first inspections since the U.S.-led allies set up the southern "no-fly" zone.

Italian team leader Mamizio Ziffero said inspection of sites in Baghdad and other cities linked to Iraq's nuclear weapons programme would begin Tuesday.

The inspection and destruction of Iraq's nuclear programme, chemical and biological weapons and ballistic missiles were ordered by the U.N. Security Council last year in Resolution 688 that outlined the terms of the Gulf war ceasefire.

But Iraqi officials have suggested Baghdad might stop complying with Resolution 688 in response to the air umbrella the allies established on Thursday.

President Saddam Hussein issued a blistering statement through the state radio and television Sunday, urging Iraqis to prepare to resist the flight ban enforced by the United States, Britain and France.

The Iraqi leader threatened "to reject the bold aggression and confront it with all means available and on all levels." However, he mentioned no specific actions. The Iraqi News Agency said President Saddam on Monday chaired a meeting of members of the military council of Iraq's ruling Arab Baath Socialist Party. It did not elaborate on the discussions.

Travellers from Iraq arriving Monday in Amman said the party has reopened recruiting and training centres in Baghdad and other towns and cities.

They said the centres were set up at party offices and schools, which are in summer recess, after the ban on Iraqi military and civilian flights below the 32nd Parallel took effect.

It appeared that Iraq was re-mobilising the para-military popular army which was re-seized after the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait in August 1990, and disbanded after the Gulf war ceasefire.

(Continued on page 5)

## Islamists consolidate gains in Lebanon polls

BEIRUT (AP) — Fundamentalist Muslims captured four seats in the latest round of Lebanon's parliament elections, increasing the size of their bloc to 14, according to official results announced Monday by the Interior Ministry.

The Iranian-backed Hizbollah and Sunni Muslim fundamentalists are likely to pick up four more seats in the final round of balloting next Sunday, analysts say.

This will give them a high profile in the new 128-seat parliament, which assumes power on Oct. 15.

Their strong showing has been made possible in large part, by the boycott staged by right-wing Christians, mainly Maronite Catholics.

The Christians argue that holding the elections — Lebanon's first in 20 years — while Syrian peacekeeping troops remain in the country will produce a parliament that is a puppet of Syria. The Syrians were sent in under a 1976 Arab League mandate.

The Interior Minister also said (Continued on page 5)

Monday that the top vote getter in Sunday's balloting in Beirut was former Prime Minister Salim Hoss, a moderate Sunni Muslim, with 30,990 ballots. His main competitor, the current premier, Rashid Solh, received just 11,432 votes to secure his seat.

Mr. Hoss' wide winning margin suggests he likely will be named prime minister and asked to form the next cabinet.

The prime minister's post by tradition goes to a Sunni.

Mr. Hoss, who earned a Ph.D. in economics at Indiana University, served as premier several times starting in 1976. Most recently, he served from June 1987 until December 1990, when he resigned to allow selection of a new prime minister as mandated by the Taif peace accord that ended the country's 15-year civil war.

The final balloting next Sunday will be held in the Shiite-dominated south. Twenty-three seats will be at stake in the final phase.

The gains in the second phase (Continued on page 5)

## Amman rally protests Western plans over Iraq

By Lancy Salisbury  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — In silent support of Iraqi leader Saddam Hussein, an estimated 3,000 protesters Monday marched downtown condemning the U.S.-led allies over southern Iraq.

The demonstrators waved pro-Iraqi placards and banners describing the flight ban over the Shiite Muslim south as a Western plot to divide the Arab World and murder President Saddam.

"The division of Iraq means that there is now a plan to divide the Arab World like in Sykes-Picot," rapped one banner in reference to the secret agreement in 1916 between Britain and France to control the Arab World.

"Bush — King of Assassins," read another placard during the march down King Hussein Street from Abdali bus station to Hashemiyeh Plaza.

The one-hour protest, organised by local Islamist, national and union groups, came on the fifth day of sorties by Western ally warplanes over the contentious southern marshlands below the 32nd Parallel.

"We are against the American aggression against Iraq. It's a big lie of Bush to say he is enforcing the no-fly zone to protect the Shi'ites," said engineer Munir Haddadin.

The U.S., Britain and France, the leading partners in the coalition, imposed the flight ban last Thursday in what they describe as an effort to protect Iraqi Shi'ite rebels from alleged Iraqi military attacks.

Iraq has denied the attacks, accusing the Western move as another step to partition the country.

"The attacks against the Shi'ites are a big lie for Western journalists to spread news to divide the Arabs and get rid of Saddam," said ship radio operator Sufian (Continued on page 5)



About 2,000 people Monday stage a rally in Amman in protest against the Western-imposed "no-fly" zone in southern Iraq (photo by Youssef Al 'Amm)

Muhsen carrying a portrait of the Iraqi leader.

"The West thinks Saddam is a dictator. Bush is the dictator. He killed a lot of Americans in Vietnam, Korea and Gulf war," he said.

Asked if he minded talking to an American reporter, he replied: "We are not fighting with the American people. We are Arabs, we are all united and we have our problems. But Bush doesn't have the right to stick his nose in our business."

The march, which began at 5:00 p.m. blocked traffic and (Continued on page 5)

clogged streets, picking up more supporters as it wound its way downtown.

Jordanian flags hung from balconies as shopkeepers, mechanics and sandwich makers stopped work to watch the protesters who also carried posters of His Majesty King Hussein and held their hands high in the V-sign of peace.

At the fountain at Hashemiyeh Plaza, a group of about 20 Iraqis, identified by their accents, waved an Iraqi flag and burst into brief chants of "Bush, Bush hear us well. We are with Saddam," and "Allah Akbar."

## Afghan truce observers take up positions in Kabul

KABUL (R) — Afghan peace mediators said Kabul's shell-shattered airport, closed by rocket fire for a month, was open to civilian flights Monday but the army commander insisted only military planes were permitted.

"Kabul airport is ready for civilian flights under our observation," engineer Mahmud, deputy leader of a neutral peace delegation, said in an interview from Kahlil with the Majahideen Afghan Islamic Press (AIP).

"We will not allow the Kabul government to make military flights from this airport," he told the Pakistan-based AIP.

The peace mission brokered the ceasefire to end three weeks of fighting between troops loyal to the Islamic government and the dissident Hezb-e-Islami that began at noon Saturday.

Militia General Khodaidan in charge of the airport contradicted the peace delegate. "It's open for military flights, it's always been open," he said. "But no civilian flights until the (Continued on page 5)

communications tower is fixed."

This month's relentless rocket fire by Hezb fighters has destroyed the control tower and blasted craters in the runway. The skeletons of four burnt-out planes litter the tarmac.

At least one military flight from the northern militia stronghold of Mazar-e-Sharif, 350 kilometres northwest of Kabul, landed Monday. Military planes have managed to take off and land at the airport throughout much of the bombardment.

The Hezb fired 15 rockets at three Russian military planes that flew in last Friday to airlift 170 diplomats from the besieged capital, destroying one and injuring four commandos.

A team of neutral observers from the all-party provincial peace team was now stationed at the airport, Mahmud said.

The truce has held for two-and-a-half days despite a string of differences emerging over implementation and interpretation.

Some pushed forward into the Israeli side of the checkpoint, singing "Biladi, Biladi" the Palestinian anthem — or chanting "We die for Palestine." Soldiers used jeeps to herd the Palestinians back to the Gaza side.

Eighty-one inmates eventually arrived in the three buses with metal grates over the windows. They walked through a fenced-in corridor as family and friends cheered, grabbed their hands, kissed their cheeks and pulled them up and over the fence.

Many fought back tears as they met family and friends. "I am happy for myself but not for the hundreds of Palestinians who remain in Israeli prisons," said Jamil Othman, who was released two months before the end of his four-year sentence for throwing a firebomb.

"All prisoners must be released without exception. Rabin needs to do more to create an atmosphere of trust between the Palestinians and the Israelis," he added.

Army figures show that before Monday's release, 7,400 Palestinians were held in connection (Continued on page 5)

## Jordanian vegetables — how safe are they?

Government faulted for loose use of regulations against farmers' abuse of pesticides on crops

By Sana Attiyeh  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Recent denials by the minister of agriculture that Jordanian homegrown fruits and vegetables were not infected with toxic residue as a result of pesticide abuse have failed to end the controversy over how safe Jordan's agricultural products are, for while some agriculture officials, well-informed experts, farmers and pesticide dealers acknowledge that the government has strict regulations on the types of imported pesticides and their use, they insist that those regulations are not so strictly enforced by the farmers as to fully trust their products.

Minister of Agriculture Fyiez Khasawneh Saturday and Monday denied media reports that Jordanian farmers were abusing pesticides (see separate story). He also said that the government had banned pesticides whose residue remains in the produce for more than 48 hours before harvest.

While certain parts of the minister's statements were refuted outright by some officials of his own ministry, farmers and pesticide dealers whose shops include the toxic material, informed sources told the Jordan Times that the sincerity (Continued on page 5)

of what the government says regarding pesticide use cannot be in doubt since the Ministry of Agriculture does not necessarily know everything about farmers' practices.

Dr. Khasawneh made his statements after a local newspaper reported that much of the fruits and vegetables contained toxic material that could have long-term health and after Saudi Arabia turned back a shipment of produce it claimed was infected with toxic material, a claim denied by the ministry after analysis ("The Saudis don't have the facilities to analyse pest residues," commented an official).

However, all those involved with the issue and interviewed by the Jordan Times — none of whom wanted to be identified by name — credited the government for placing sufficient regulations for the use of pesticides, but blamed the farmers for not following the proper instructions of their use on the agricultural products.

According to a pesticides dealer and agricultural engineer, the government does not import any such products if they are not cleared by the U.S. Environment Protection Agency (EPA) and the Geneva-based World Health Organisation (WHO) and if (Continued on page 5)

they are not used by the Western countries that produce them. All pesticide cans must carry instructions and precautions in Arabic. All pesticides that contain chlorinated hydrocarbons — which causes cancer — are also banned from the market, although some are smuggled in, according to dealers.

So the pesticides themselves are not the problem. But despite the government regulations, which many farmers say are not properly enforced by the concerned ministry, the problem of pesticide abuse in Jordan does exist and could have hazardous effects on the human body, according to well-informed sources.

"Proper agricultural practice is definitely lacking," a well- (Continued on page 5)

## Contamination prompted ban on Jordanian produce, Saudis say

By Rana Sabbagh  
Reuters

AMMAN — Saudi Arabia has barred imports of Jordanian fruit and vegetables because recent shipments were contaminated with sewage and pesticides, a Saudi embassy source said in Amman Monday.

"We want the Jordanian government to guarantee that any fruits and vegetables shipped to Saudi Arabia are clean," the embassy source told Reuters.

Jordan denied the shipments were contaminated and said all exports were checked before shipment.

Saudi Arabia, which until the Gulf crisis imported 70 per cent of Jordan's annual agri- (Continued on page 5)

cultural exports of around 500,000 tonnes, turned back several vegetable trucks last week after random tests showed a high level of pollutants, the embassy source said.

Agriculture Minister Fyiez Khasawneh said there were no traces of pollutants in the shipments and expressed hope Riyadh would soon resume imports.

"We have tested samples of vegetables taken from trucks that were returned from the Saudi border and samples taken from export yards and we found that there was no trace of sewage-water contamination whatsoever," Dr. Khasawneh told Reuters.

"We forwarded copies of our confirmatory tests to Saudi Arabia and we are hopeful that (Continued on page 5)

they will reconsider their position as soon as they recognise that their move was really unjustified," he said.

The import ban has caused major difficulties for Jordan's debt-ridden farmers who have not yet recovered from the Gulf crisis when Saudi Arabia and other Gulf states halted all agricultural imports for over a year to punish Jordanians for their pro-Iraqi sympathies.

Prices of most farm products in the local market have collapsed since last week's shipments were halted.

Rejecting criticism that many local farmers were incorrectly using pesticides, Dr. Khasawneh said his ministry was running a tight system to (Continued on page 5)



## Rebels claim 200 Turkish troops killed

NICOSIA (AP) — Kurdish rebels claimed Monday that they wiped out an entire garrison of about 200 troops manning a camp in eastern Turkey during a weekend battle.

The troops were killed when the camp's ammunition dump blew up during an intense rebel rocket and mortar attack, said a rebel communiqué faxed to the Associated Press in Nicosia.

Turkey confirmed the attack on the post near the village of Alan in Hakkari province.

But a statement by the regional governor's office in Diyarbakir said 43 rebels were killed in the 10-hour battle that started at dawn Sunday. It put Turkish military casualties at 10 dead and 12 wounded.

The rebel communiqué said rebel casualties were only four dead and six wounded.

There was no way to independently verify the numbers.

The clash is believed to be the heaviest in the province since the Kurdish Labour Party (PKK) launched its anti-government offensive in 1984. The PKK has recently stepped up attacks.

The rebel communiqué said the attack was carried out by "150 Kurdish guerrillas of the second division."

Turkey charges the rebels generally carry out their attacks from bases across the border Iraq-Kurdistan. Turkish planes frequently attack these bases.

Two such air strikes last week followed a recent clash in the southeastern city of Sirnak which lasted for 48 hours and left 18 people dead.

On Sunday, the Turkish governor's office said the guerrillas were seen carrying some bodies back to hideouts in Iran.

State-run Iran radio Monday denied that its territory was used by Kurdish separatist groups to launch attacks on Turkey.

PKK has also increased its

attacks in big cities. It has claimed responsibility for firing into a Turkish airlines passenger plane in Adana and for setting fire to a ferry boat on the Bosphorus in Istanbul last week.

The plane was hit by several bullets while taking off for Saudi Arabia but continued its trip.

The increased rebel activity prompted an emergency cabinet meeting last Thursday in the eastern city of Diyarbakir, under the chairmanship of Turkish President Turgut Ozal, to study the situation.

An announcement after the meeting vowed that Turkey would pursue the PKK guerrillas "inside or outside the country," in order to crush them.

Emergency rule Governor Unal Erkan said on Monday Turkish forces had found the bodies of 43 guerrillas. Up to 60 more PKK dead and a number of wounded rebels were carried across the border into Iran into five lorries waiting there, he added.

He said the security forces had used "whatever means necessary to counter the attack."

Iran denied its territory was used by Kurds to launch attacks on Turkey. Tehran Radio quoted a foreign ministry spokesman as "strongly refuting reports of any attack on Turkey from Iranian territory by Kurdish groups."

Turkey has in the past accused Syria and Iran of giving sanctuary to the PKK. Tehran has denied any PKK presence on its territory. Syria has promised to help secure Turkey's borders.

Turkish media have been reporting new Turkish troop deployments on the Iraqi border, where the PKK has camps.

Turkey called in neighbouring Iran's charge d'affaires Monday and asked for information on the raid and reminded the envoy of the importance we attach to the cooperation and help between the two neighbour states.

## U.N. boosts food aid for Somalia

ROME (AP) — The United Nations announced Monday that it is boosting its Somali relief effort and sending an additional 72,000 tonnes of food for the hundreds of thousands of starving people.

The new aid is worth about \$26 million and should last three months, said Catherine Bertini, head of the U.N. World Food Programme.

It will supplement 69,000 tonnes of food already promised, half of which has been delivered.

"A total collapse of the state" has made it difficult to make sure hungry people get the aid, said U.N. special envoy to Somalia, Mohammad Sahnoun. On Friday an armed gang backed by three tanks seized more than 230 tonnes of food in Mogadishu's port, wounding two U.N. peacekeepers.

In making the announcement, Mr. Sahnoun said the first of 3,500 U.N. troops promised to guard the food should begin taking up positions in Somalia's capital, Mogadishu, and elsewhere in the country in the next few days.

"These will help us limit the looting," he said.

Ms. Bertini said roughly half of the U.N. aid so far had been looted or stolen from every step of the distribution process. The most frequently stolen goods are those considered valuable on the black market, such as sugar, vegetable oil and powdered milk, the two officials stressed.

However, the 80 to 85 per cent of donated grains — which are not as highly prized on the black market — are making it to hungry people, Mr. Sahnoun said.

Up to two million Somalis face starvation without emergency aid. About 2,000 people a day are dying in a country where clan-based factions rule.

## Iraq's war on merchants hits Jordanian trade zone

By Rana Sabbagh  
Reuters

ZARQA FREE ZONE, Jordan — Iraq's war on merchants has had a chilling effect on trade at this scorching outpost in the Jordanian desert.

Traffic at the Zarqa duty-free zone, source of a huge portion of supplies of food and other humanitarian goods Iraq is allowed under U.N. sanctions, has been almost at a standstill for the past month, ever since Iraq executed 12 merchants.

"My main customers were Iraqi wholesalers who don't want to do any business with their country any more because they have been scared to death after recent executions of their colleagues," one Jordanian trader said.

Around 600 merchants were rounded up in a crackdown that started on July 25. Offi-

cials said 42 were shot by firing squads after being accused of profiteering.

Jordanian traders say the crackdown, a ban on most food imports and the weakening of Iraq's currency, the dinar, have crippled business with Baghdad.

"I am sending goods for a maximum of \$10,000 a day to Iraq compared to an average of \$100,000 a day last month," said the trader, who like many others, gave many of his non-essential staff unpaid leave to trim running expenses.

"Most of my clients these days are industrialists who buy small quantities of flour and sugar to run factories producing biscuits and sweets," he added.

Iraq earlier this month banned the import of 157 items, mostly consumer goods, leaving only a small list of com-

modities allowed to be imported under a new plan of action announced by President Saddam Hussein to protect his people from what he called a "greedy minority."

Traders in the zone, situated outside Amman on the main road to Baghdad, said only a dozen trucks were leaving each day compared to a daily average of 160 a month ago.

"Business has never been so dead as now," complained another trader pointing to mountains of flour and sugar bags stored in his tin-roofed warehouse.

"For the past month, hardly anything has moved out of here," the merchant told Reuters. Until July he was sending around 20 trucks of staples to Iraq a day.

Some Jordanian traders say the executions have cost them millions of dollars because most of the Iraqi merchants

either were their partners or used to pay after selling the goods.

Families of the 'executed' have not been able to settle the bills because Baghdad seized their goods, bank accounts and property.

Iraq says the purge, welcomed by the public which receives half of its basic food needs in government rations and struggles for the rest on the open market, had led to a 50 per cent cut in the food imports from Jordan, its main lifeline.

Travellers coming from Baghdad say flour, sugar, tea and rice are in scant supply.

A fixed margin of profit allowed for importers and a dear rapidly sliding in value has also caused a further drop in business with Iraq, traders say.

But most expect business to

revive soon and do not believe the stalemate will drag on forever.

"All of this is temporary because we are not dealing with luxury items but with basic food commodities which Iraq badly needs," said a merchant who deals in flour and vegetable oil.

Iraq continues to import staples through Aqaba to sustain its rationing programme but Jordanian officials say even that has been dwindling sharply.

The total flow of Iraqi imports through Aqaba has dropped from 550,000 tonnes in May to 160,000 tonnes in June and the same in July, official reports indicate.

Most officials say the fall could either mean Iraq had sufficient stocks to last for a while or that it was running low on foreign cash to pay for new goods.

## Malaysia raps 'arrogant' U.S.

JAKARTA (R) — Malaysia Monday strongly criticised the U.S.-led air exclusion zone imposed over southern Iraq and urged the Non-Aligned Movement to condemn Washington's "arrogance of power."

An Indonesian Foreign Ministry official said the issue was likely to be raised when movement leaders begin their summit on Tuesday.

Malaysian Foreign Minister Abdullah Ahmad Badawi told a preparatory meeting of foreign ministers the "no-fly" zone was a "flagrant contravention of all accepted international norms and practices."

"This action is undertaken without clear a specific mandate of the U.N. Security Council, bringing into question the real motives of these powers," he said as leaders of the 108-member movement arrived for the six-day summit.

The United States, France and Britain sent planes this month to enforce the zone south of the 32nd Parallel, saying they want to protect Shiite Muslim rebels from attack.

Iraq says the U.S.-led alliance is trying to dismember it. Abdullah Ahmad said the "no-fly" order, and a recent U.S. supreme court decision authorising the seizure of suspects overseas for trial in America, showed the "arrogance of power."

"These two examples illustrate firmly how vulnerable countries in the movement are. It is incumbent that we clearly pronounce in Jakarta our strong opposition to the actions that negate our sovereignty," he said.

Syrian Foreign Minister Farouk Al Sharras said: "While Syria adheres to the U.N. Security Council resolutions, at the same time it stands firm in support of the unity of Iraq and to preserve the territorial integrity of Iraq."

"Any action which might undermine (that) ... is not acceptable to us."

Iraqi Vice-President Taha Yassin Ramadan, who arrived in Jakarta Monday morning, said before leaving Baghdad his delegation would reveal "with factual proofs of the aim of the U.S.-led conspiracy and aggression."

Some delegates said non-aligned members might be reluctant to argue strongly against the "no-fly" zone, unless Iraq broadened the subject.

"I don't see anybody that's going to put his head (out) so it can be chopped," said one Islamic delegate.

"People are very sensitive to the issue. Tacitly people might agree with Iraq, but publicly they might not."

Cuba condemned the "no-fly" zone imposed in southern Iraq, saying it was an unjustified, illegal use of military force that threatened world peace.

"This is another aggressive and interfering act of force," the Cuban foreign ministry said in a statement.

"The government of Cuba condemns this new American intervention which constitutes a clear violation of the territorial integrity of a state through the unjustified use of military force," it added.

Cuba's communist government had strongly opposed the U.S.-led 1991 Gulf war against Iraq and subsequent restrictions imposed on the Baghdad government. It also condemned Iraq's initial invasion of Kuwait that triggered the war.

The Cuban Foreign Ministry said the "no-fly" zone, "far from contributing to solving the serious conflicts in the area, is really a threat to international peace and security, like any other act which violates the principles of international law."

It described the U.S.-led decision, taken during a U.S. presidential election campaign in which President George Bush was lagging behind his rival, as "another indication of the attitude of the U.S. government which is trying to impose a one-sided 'new order' on the rest of the world in which its own hegemonic will prevails..."

## MIDDLE EAST NEWS IN BRIEF

### Jews choose Germany, U.S. over Israel

TEL AVIV (R) — More Jews leaving the former Soviet Union are settling in the United States and Germany than in Israel for lack of work, a senior immigration official said on Monday. Simcha Dinitz confirmed to Israel Radio that 37,000 former Soviet Jews moved to the United States and Germany in the first half of the year compared with 30,000 to Israel. "The conditions of absorption, and primarily employment, deterred the immigration," Mr. Dinitz, chairman of the quasi-government Jewish Agency, told the Radio.

Soviet reforms sent immigration to Israel soaring from 13,000 in 1989 to more than 180,000 in 1990 and 140,000 in 1991. But it fell off as Israeli unemployment reached 11 per cent. Many dis-appointed doctors, engineers and other well-trained immigrants to Israel have been forced to take low-paying jobs outside their professions. The number of newcomers fell to 3,000 a month in early 1992 and rose to about 5,000 in August. "But that is obviously less than half the number that could be brought," Mr. Dinitz said.

U.S. President George Bush in early August backed Israel's request for \$10 billion in loan guarantees to absorb the newcomers on Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin's promise to curb Jewish settlement of the occupied lands.

Taiwan court awards Iran \$15 million

TAIPEI (R) — A Taiwan court ordered state-run Chang Hwa Commercial Bank on Monday to pay more than \$15 million to the Iranian government settling a decade-old dispute, the Central News Agency (CNA) said. Iran remitted \$15 million to the bank in 1981 but asked for it back two months later, the semi-official agency said. State radio said the funds for a purchase of military supplies from Taiwan which was subsequently cancelled. The money was illegally withdrawn from Chang Hwa, one of Taiwan's biggest banks, before it could be returned by three unidentified Iranians who then disappeared, CNA said. The Taipei district court ordered Chang Hwa to pay Iran's defence ministry the \$15 million plus five per cent annual interest and 70 per cent of its legal costs, it said.

French official discusses ties with Iran

NICOSIA (AP) — A French Foreign Ministry official said in Tehran that Paris was eager to expand ties with Iran, and promised financial credits, the Islamic Republic News Agency (IRNA) reported. Serge Boidevaix, secretary general of the French foreign ministry, said "France-Iran cooperation has taken shape and is bearing fruit." He spoke during a meeting with Iran's deputy foreign minister, Mahmoud Vaezi, IRNA said. France was "ready to allocate necessary credits for various Iranian projects," he said, according to IRNA. Mr. Vaezi called for more non-oil Iranian exports to France, saying that would "further strengthen the two countries' economic ties." He added that a much publicised gas pipeline from Iran to France was "the most important part" of economic ventures between the two countries. Mr. Boidevaix arrived in Tehran Sunday.

Kurd deserts from Turkish army in Cyprus

NICOSIA (R) — A Kurdish soldier deserted from the Turkish army in northern Cyprus and asked for asylum in the government-controlled south, officials said Monday. They said 19-year-old Ali Gungordan, from Derinli, southeast Turkey, crossed over Saturday with his automatic rifle, ammunition and a passport, and surrendered to Cyprus police. He told police he was a supporter of the outlawed Kurdistan Labour Party (PKK) which has been fighting since 1984 for an independent state for the 10 million Kurds in southeast Turkey. Police said Mr. Gungordan expressed fear for his life if he was handed back to Turkish authorities. He repeated the plea before a Nicosia district court which ordered him to be held in custody for eight days. Government spokesman Akis Fantis declined to comment on the case. The Cyprus government has given asylum to a number of Turkish soldiers who have deserted from the occupied north in the past. Some, however, were sent back on suspicion that they were spies.

1 killed in gunfight on Iraq-Kuwait border

KUWAIT (AP) — A Kuwaiti policeman has died of wounds suffered in an exchange of gunfire with Iraqis along the disputed frontier between the two countries, an official at the Interior Ministry said Monday. A second policeman was injured in the clash on Sunday, said the official. The policeman's condition was not immediately known. The official said the incident began when Kuwaiti border patrol discovered a red truck with Iraqi licence plates trying to cross the unmarked desert frontier in the U.N. patrolled "demilitarised zone." The zone, patrolled by the U.N. Iraq-Kuwait Observer Mission, was set up after allied troops last year ended Iraq's seven-month occupation of Kuwait.

To celebrate the success of His Majesty's surgical operation, and his discharge from hospital in good health  
Al Jeel Al Jadeed Club extends its annual performance

### (THE TRUE LOVE)



which will be new  
Wednesday 2/9/92 and Thursday 3/9/92, 8 p.m.,  
at the main theatre of The Royal Cultural Centre  
Tickets are sold at Al Jeel Al Jadeed Club, and the Royal Cultural Centre.  
For Reservation, Call 810611

## Turabi warns Islam will take over

KHARTOUM (AP) — Hassan Turabi, the power behind Sudan's Islamic military government, has warned that fundamentalists will take over in most Muslim countries in the next decade, either peacefully or by force.

Mr. Turabi, 60, attacked Egypt and Algeria for their violent suppression of Islamic movements, saying they had forced their people to become militant.

"It will take some time both in monarchies and military government. It (Islamisation) can proceed through elections, or popular movements or revolution," Mr. Turabi said in an interview with the Associated Press.

"It is a matter of time actually... in 10 years, you will have quite a number of countries."

The turbaned Turabi, wearing the traditional long, white Sudanese robe, denied charges that his country has been training Muslim extremists to commit terrorist acts in other Arab states. He especially rejected Egypt's accusations that Sudan was financing its Muslim militants.

He said the charges were "obviously a fabrication by some governments which are frightened of the popular movement against the Associated Press."

Southern Egypt has been a hotbed for Muslim extremist activity during the past decade. This year, 58 people have died in sectarian-related violence and in

police attacks on the militants. Cairo has accused its southern neighbour, Sudan, of sponsoring the extremists, with the backing of Iran, and of training them and sending weapons across the border.

Mr. Turabi also criticised Algeria's handling of its fundamentalist movement. He accused France, Britain and the United States of engineering the military coup in Algeria to halt elections which fundamentalists were poised to win.

"It is these governments which force some Islamic movements to become revolutionary, and compel them to take up arms to defend themselves against police assault and massacres like in Egypt and Algeria," he said.

A Western-educated lawyer and politician, Mr. Turabi earned a masters degree in law at London University and a doctorate in public law at the Sorbonne, Paris.

He has been an Islamic activist since the mid-1960s, with frequent jail sentences.

As senior advisor to former President Jaafar Numeiri, Mr. Turabi engineered the 1983 Islamic laws imposed nationwide. The laws eventually contributed to Mr. Numeiri's downfall in 1985 and Mr. Turabi was again imprisoned.

He made a reappearance after Lieutenant-General Omar Hassan Al-Bashir overthrew the civil-

ian government in 1989, and it is widely believed that he has since been the power behind the throne.

But Mr. Turabi says he is not seeking political office anymore, and is more interested in the international Islamic movement.

While on a visit three months ago to Britain and America to foster links between the West and Islamic countries, Mr. Turabi was attacked with heavy blows on the head by a Sudanese at Ottawa airport. He suffered amnesia and partial paralysis, but Sunday seemed well recovered, speaking flawless English with some uncharacteristic hesitation.

"I found they (in the West) know very little about Islam and Africa," Mr. Turabi said.

"They thought I was responsible for all the Islamic movements in the world. I told them no, Islam has been there for (more than) 1,400 years."

"If someone thought I was responsible... and the best way to suppress the revival is to suppress me personally, he was probably responsible for that attack against me."

Mr. Turabi said the United States seemed to believe that Islam is the main threat against its stability.

"After the collapse of the Soviet Union, the only other thing they think... might ultimately turn up as a challenge to them is Islam now."

### JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel: 773111-19

#### PROGRAMME TWO

18:00 Doc: "Shamala"  
18:30 Marc et Sophie  
19:00 News in French  
19:15 Varieties  
19:30 News in Hebrew  
20:00 News in Arabic  
20:30 Acropolis Now  
21:00 Mr. Bean  
21:30 Toot  
22:00 News in English  
22:30 Oscar Film: "The Scarlet Pimpernel"

#### PRAYER TIMES

06:05 Fajr  
06:05 Sunrise  
12:36 Dhuhr  
14:12 Asr  
19:06 Maghreb  
20:27 Isha

#### CHURCHES

St. Mary of Nazareth Church Swedalia, Tel. 810740  
Assembly of God Church, Tel. 62785

St. Joseph Church Tel. 624590  
Church of the Annunciation Tel. 637440  
De la Soie Church Tel. 661757  
Terrence Church Tel. 622666  
Church of the Annunciation Tel. 623541

Anglican Church Tel. 630851, Tel. 628543  
Armenian Catholic Church Tel. 771331

Armenian Orthodox Church Tel. 772561  
St. Ephraim Church Tel. 771751

Assiout International Church Tel. 685326  
Evangelical Lutheran Church Tel. 811295

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints Tel. 623624, 649322  
Church of the Redeemer Tel. 675691  
Church of the Redeemer Tel. 635576

#### WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.  
It will remain hot and winds will be northeasterly light. In Aqaba, winds will be northerly moderate and seas calm.

## JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

Min./Max. temp.  
Amman ..... 23 / 37  
Aqaba ..... 27 / 41  
Deraia ..... 19 / 39  
Jordan Valley ..... 27 / 40

Yesterday's high temperature: Amman 37, Aqaba 40. Humidity readings: Amman 24 per cent, Aqaba 36 per cent.

### USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

NIGHT DUTY  
AMMAN:  
Dr. Salim Daboubi ..... 776751  
Dr. Rami Mazawi ..... 894788  
Dr. Khaled Hakeem ..... 793322  
Dr. Saad Abu Hatab ..... 689846  
Fires pharmacy ..... 661912  
Foods pharmacy ..... 778336  
Al Azema pharmacy ..... 637035  
Nagash pharmacy ..... 623072  
Al Salam pharmacy ..... 626730  
Yacoub pharmacy ..... 649495

Sheneisi pharmacy ..... 637660  
BURD:  
Dr. Ahmad Bistawi ..... (-)  
Al-Shara' pharmacy ..... (778222)

ZARQA:  
Dr. Nabil al Ammeri ..... (-)  
Khalaf pharmacy ..... 954177

### EMERGENCIES

Food Control Centre ..... 637111  
Civil Defence Department ..... 661111  
Civil Defence Immediate ..... 63041  
Rescue Police ..... 192, 621111, 637777  
Fire Brigade ..... 801228  
Blood Bank ..... 775121  
Highway Police ..... 843402  
Traffic Police ..... 896390  
Public Security Department ..... 63021  
Hotel Complaints ..... 600000  
Price Complaints ..... 661176  
Water and Sewerage ..... 897461  
Complaints ..... 897461  
Municipality ..... 787111  
Telephone Information ..... 787111

(directory assistance) ..... 121  
Overseas Calls ..... 010230  
Central Amman Telephone ..... 62301  
Repeater ..... 640412  
Jordan Television ..... 771111  
Radio Jordan ..... 774111  
Water Authority ..... 680100  
Jordan Electricity Authority ..... 815615  
Electric Power ..... 663681  
RJ Flight Information ..... 06-53200  
Queen Alia Intl. Airport ..... 06-53200

### HOSPITALS

AMMAN:  
Hussein Medical Centre ..... 813813/22  
Khalid Matarzi, J. Amn. .... 644281/6  
Al-Jed Matarzi, J. Amn. .... 644112  
Jabal Amman Maternity ..... 642362  
Mafkas, J. Amman ..... 636140  
Palestine, Shamsat ..... 664171/4  
Shamsat Hospital ..... 669131  
University Hospital ..... 649845  
Al-Mustashaf Hospital ..... 667227/9  
The Islamic, Amman ..... 666127/37  
Al-Ahli, Amman ..... 664164/6  
Jalal, Al-Majnoon ..... 771012/3  
Al-Bashir, J. Amman ..... 775111/26

Army, Marka ..... 651611/15  
Queen Alia Hospital ..... 602240/50  
Amal Hospital ..... 674155  
ZARQA:  
Zarqa Govt. Hospital ..... (07)963323  
Zarqa National Hospital ..... (07)900560  
The Sina Hospital ..... (07)960732  
Al-Hilma Modern Hospital ..... (07)999990

RUJ:  
Princess Beasm Hospital ..... 0272555  
Greek Catholic Hospital ..... 0272725  
The Al-Nahda Hospital ..... 02747180  
Aqaba:  
Princess Haya Hospital ..... (03)314111

### FOR THE TRAVELLER

#### QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) Information department at the Queen Alia International Airport Tel. (06)5200-5, where it should always be verified.

#### ARRIVALS

Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)  
06:00 ..... Amman (RJ)  
06:30 ..... Amman, New York (RJ)  
12:00 ..... Paris, Brussels (RJ)  
12:00 ..... Geneva, Madrid (RJ)  
12:30 ..... Frankfurt (RJ)  
13:45 ..... Cairo (RJ)  
13:45 ..... London (RJ)  
21:45 ..... Beirut (RJ)  
22:00 ..... Aden (RJ)

06:00 ..... Jakarta, Kuala Lumpur (RJ)  
06:30 ..... Dhahran (RJ)  
18:00 ..... Abu Dhabi (RJ)  
18:30 ..... Amman (RJ)  
18:30 ..... Muscat, Dubai (RJ)  
18:30 ..... Doha, Bahrain (RJ)  
17:05 ..... London (RJ)  
17:45 ..... Cairo (RJ)  
18:00 ..... Frankfurt (RJ)  
18:30 ..... Toronto, Montreal (RJ)  
20:00 ..... Vienna (RJ)

06:00 ..... Larnaca (RJ)  
06:30 ..... Doha (RJ)  
22:30 ..... Abu Dhabi, Dubai (RJ)  
22:45 ..... Kuala Lumpur, Singapore (RJ)</



## Ajlouni says universities have failed to institutionalise scientific research

RAMTHA (J.T.) — President of Jordan University of Science and Technology (JUST) Kamel Ajlouni said Monday that Jordanian universities have so far "failed to build up a cadre of scientific researchers and to lay the infrastructure for research work at educational institutions."

In an opening address to a three-day meeting on the role of research in promoting clinical services, Dr. Ajlouni said: "Research work (has so far been) the result of individual efforts which are bound to vanish with the exit of those individuals from the scene or when posts are reshuffled."

"We cannot blame a certain organisation or body for this failure without conducting a comprehensive study on the causes of failure," said Dr. Ajlouni.

The conference, which was organised by the Higher Council for Science and Technology

(HCST) in cooperation with the Baghdad-based Federation of Arab Scientific Research Council (FASRC) is attended by delegates from Jordan, Iraq, Sudan, Yemen, Syria and Tunisia.

The delegates will review 18 working papers on means of promoting medical and clinical services at hospitals.

Nearly 200 researchers are attending the meetings, which will review topics related to medical and clinical sciences as well as biotechnology used in clinical diagnosis, according to Dr. Khaled Shreideh, from the HCST.

Dr. Shreideh, who addressed the opening session on behalf of the HCST secretary general, underlined the importance of basic research work in dealing with socio-economic development in the developing nations.

He said developing nations "ought to focus their attention on applied research in general and

on medical fields in particular so that they can contribute towards promoting clinical and medical services."

Secretary General of the FASRC Taha Nueimi said that "the conference, the first of its kind to deal with scientific research in clinical and medical specialisations in the Arab World," is designed to focus attention on nutrition, immunisation and medicines as they relate to medical sciences and clinical services in hospitals.

The symposium also aims at acquainting participants with modern technology employed in clinical diagnosis and treatment, and to help Arab researchers exchange views about their work, he said.

The World Health Organisation (WHO) is represented at the meeting and will submit a working paper on priorities of research in medical services, according to Dr. Shreideh.



Her Royal Highness Princess Basma Monday meets with Tafleleh residents (Petra photo)

## Princess visits Tafleleh

TAFILEH (Petra) — Her Royal Highness Princess Basma Monday visited Tafleleh governorate and supervised the distribution of supplies and gifts of foodstuffs to 1500 needy families in 22 villages.

The visit and the distributions were part of the Queen Alia Social Welfare Fund's (QAF) voluntary and social programmes benefiting poor families in the country.

The Princess, who is chairperson of QAF's board of trustees,

met with local residents and discussed problems facing the area with them.

The citizens voiced their appreciation for Princess Basma's continuous help to their communities and her drive to improve their living conditions.

The Princess was accompanied on the tour by several Parliament members from the local districts as well as the Maan governor and other officials.

## Royal Decree approves appointment, transfer of senior government officials

AMMAN (Petra) — A Royal decree was issued Monday endorsing decisions taken by the Council of Ministers concerning appointments in three important government positions.

The Royal Decree approved the appointment of Sheikh Nuh Salama as Chief Islamic Justice, succeeding Sheikh Mohammad Mehdi who has retired. Sheikh Nuh, who holds up doctorate degrees in Islamic law, was the General Mufti of the Jordanian Armed forces.

Dr. Abdullah Ulayyan was appointed president of the Civil Service Commission. Dr. Ulayyan, who studied at the university of Jordan and the University of Southern California, has been working as director general of the Institute of Public Administration. Mr. Ulayyan replaced Mr. Mohammad Saeed Abu Nawwar whose resignation was approved Monday.

The Royal Decree also approved the appointment of Dr. Mohammad Dumeit as head of a special committee set up by the government to supervise administrative control and inspection in public administration services. Dr. Dumeit was a professor of economics at the University of Jordan.

Another Royal Decree was issued Monday approving the Council of Ministers' appointments and transfers senior government officials.

Under the new changes, Dr. Mohammad Bani Hani will be advisor at the Prime Minister's office. Dr. Munther Al Masri will become Ministry of Education secretary general for educational matters. Dr. Khaled Marawi will be Ministry of Education secretary general for Administrative Affairs. Mr. Salama Tarawneh will become governor at the Ministry of Interior. Dr. Eid Kharabseh, a professor of economics at the University of Jordan, will become secretary general of the Audit Bureau to succeed Mr. Tarawneh. Mr. Marahem Mhaisen, a senior official at the Ministry of Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Environment has become secretary general of the Aqaba Region Authority. Mr. Trad Al Fayez, who has served as Information Ministry secretary general has become ambassador at the Foreign Ministry. Mr. Nayef Mula, who has served at the Foreign Ministry, will become secretary general of the Ministry of Information. Dr. Fayez Al Rabieh, who has worked at the Ministry of Higher Education, will become ambassador at the Foreign Ministry. Dr. Ahmad Al Hishai, who has been a professor of mathematics at Muta University, will become secretary general of the Ministry of Higher Education. Mr. Asen Ghosheh, who has worked as Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources secretary

general, has become secretary general of the Ministry of Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Environment.

The Royal Decree also approved the appointment of Mr. Abdul Wahab Al Zoubi, who was chief engineer at the Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources, as the ministry's secretary general. Mr. Radi Ibrahim, who was Ministry of Supply Secretary General as governor at the Interior Ministry. Mr. Abdullah Al Ayoun, who worked at the Ministry of Information, as governor at the Ministry of Interior. Mr. Mohammad Shihadeh Talhouni, who has worked as district governor, as governor at the Ministry of Interior.

Dr. Zuhair Kayed will become director of the Institute of Public Administration, succeeding Dr. Abdullah Ulayyan.

A Royal Decree issued Sunday endorsed the appointment of Dr. Hani Al Mulki as secretary general of the Higher Council for Science and Technology (HCST), in addition to his post as president of the Royal Scientific Society (RSS).

Dr. Abdullah Toukan, who had held the post of HCST secretary general for the past few years, will now serve as advisor to his Majesty King Hussein.

The Royal decree said that the appointments and transfers will become effective on Sept. 1992.

## Jordan, Sri Lanka sign air transport agreement

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordan and Sri Lanka Monday formally signed an agreement on air transport, more than one year after launching the Amman-Colombo-Amman route.

The agreement was signed by Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) Director General Ahmad Jweiber and Secretary General of the Sri Lankan Defence Ministry General Rana Tonga.

Mr. Jweiber said the agreement was originally initiated in 1975 but was later amended following talks between the two sides in Colombo.

The amendments, as finally endorsed in June of 1991, entitle Royal Jordanian (RJ), to operate two weekly flights on the Amman-Colombo route.

RJ launched its maiden flight to Sri Lanka in July last year following the conclusion of the amended agreement in June last

year. The two sides said in a joint statement that they would be operating joint services along this route.

They said the service will open new scopes of air travel between Sri Lanka and Jordan, the Middle East, North Africa, western and southern Europe, the U.S. and Canada.

Previously, passengers from Jordan and the surrounding countries had to travel to Sri Lanka using more than one airline and making an overnight stop in the Gulf region.

At the signing ceremony, Monday, Mr. Jweiber praised the existing relations between the two countries and their cooperation in civil aviation and air transport.

Gen. Tonga, accompanied by an official delegation, arrived in Amman Sunday to sign the agreement.

## Tax department offers new services

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Income Tax Department has created a public services office to offer facilities and help to the taxpayers.

Department Director General Mansour Haddadin said Monday that the office will offer guidance and advice to the public.

According to Mr. Haddadin, office staff will guide taxpayers to the required offices, fill out forms for them, reply to taxpayers' queries and provide them with their tax numbers, among other things.

A special telephone number has been installed at the office for the benefit of taxpayers who can make enquiries during office hours. The office staff, he added, will receive the complaints and then act on them before calling back with the replies.

The telephone number is 685613.

## VACANCY NOTICE No. 104/92

The United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East announces a vacancy of Assistant Information Systems Officer, Grade 12 at salary of JD 377,500 flls at the Department of Administration — UNRWA Field Office — Amman.

Applicants should have:

1. A university degree in Computer Science.
2. Excellent knowledge of the VS operating system, DOS, Wang Word Processing, Word Perfect, Lotus 1-2-3 and Paradox 3.
3. A minimum of 3 years experience working with mini and personal computers with at least 2 years experience in software development.
4. Good command of spoken and written English.

Priority of appointment will be given to qualified registered Palestinian refugees and to internal candidates of the agency. The agency's administration reserves the right to make no appointment if a suitable candidate cannot be found from among the applicants without giving reasons.

Interested qualified persons are required to accurately complete an UNRWA application form obtainable from the various UNRWA offices in the area and to submit it to the administration clerks in the areas who will forward all such completed applications to the Field Personnel Officer and Deputy Field Administration Officer not later than Monday 14, September 1992.

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## ILO supports regional approach to labour problems

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The displacement of hundreds of thousands of migrant workers resulting from the Gulf crisis is an ongoing concern of the International Labour Organisation (ILO), and the Geneva-based U.N. agency is trying to help the affected countries, including Jordan, deal with the problem ILO Director-General Michael Hansenne said Monday.

While the ILO, a technical organisation by definition, is unable to offer any direct material assistance to Jordan or any other country to help it cope with the problem of rising unemployment which was compounded by the massive return of expatriates, it has been extending technical and advisory help and will continue to do so, Mr. Hansenne said.

One of the main problems faced by Jordan in trying to secure the rights of its nationals, who had to leave Kuwait in the wake of the Gulf crisis, was that the emirate had not ratified some of the international conventions on which the Kingdom based its efforts, Labour Minister Abdul Karim Kabariti told a joint press conference with Mr. Hansenne.

Mr. Kabariti said the ILO was highly instrumental in securing compensation from the Kuwaiti government for Jordanians who lost their jobs with the public sector in the emirate as a result of the Gulf crisis.

"We appreciate the persuasive efforts of the ILO and its director-general without which I doubt whether our endeavours would have been fruitful," he said.

Mr. Hansenne said the ILO would follow up on a Jordanian proposal to adopt a multilateral approach to regional movements of migrant labour force through setting up an inter-governmental agency, which could offer a better

avenue to tackling the problem. The proposal was made by His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, during a meeting with the ILO director-general Monday.

The problem of the displaced in the Gulf crisis is not limited to Jordan, Mr. Hansenne said, citing the ILO's efforts since last year to "expose the gravity of the situation to the international community."

Shukri Dajani, assistant director-general of the ILO, noted that the ILO has held a conference in Geneva and followed it up with another meeting of governments, workers and employers in Bangkok, Thailand, to discuss the problem faced by several Arab as well as Asian countries as a result of the displacement of tens of thousands of their nationals who used to work in Kuwait.

The ILO will be sending an expert to Jordan soon to extend technical help to the government in computerising claims for compensation for victims of the Gulf crisis, he said.

Mr. Kabariti said the authorities had already received around 80,000 claims, which will be forwarded to a special U.N. fund set up last year. The coffers of the funds are empty, pending Iraq's acceptance of a one-time limited oil sale, part of whose proceeds would be used to pay war reparations and compensation.

Jordan has requested ILO help in setting up an accurate and comprehensive data bank on labour as one of the means to adopt a realistic approach to addressing its unemployment problem, Mr. Kabariti said.

Concurring with Mr. Kabariti that his visit to Jordan was an effort to assess the democratisation process in the Kingdom, Mr. Hansenne said the ILO sought to ensure that the "social and economic dimensions" of democracy are also addressed.

"Democracy does not simply mean political parties and a political system," he pointed out. "It entails the freedom of association and the freedom of collective bargaining," Mr. Hansenne said.

However, Mr. Hansenne declined to comment on his impressions of labour union movements in Jordan saying it was beyond his mandate to make any such assessments.

The ILO director-general referred to the economic restructuring programme of Jordan in conjunction with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and said his organisation was trying to alleviate the social and economic problems through intervening with the IMF.

Mr. Hansenne was not specific on the ILO's approach to the IMF in the context of Jordan but said the world monetary watchdog was slowly turning around to appreciating that some of the tough austerity programmes it demands from financially-troubled countries were causing social hardships.

Improving the conditions of Palestinian workers in the occupied territories is one of the priorities of the ILO, he said, adding that the agency was expanding its technical services to people under occupation.

The status of Palestinian workers under Israeli occupation figures as a distinct issue in every annual ILO conference, he noted.

The ILO has not been asked to assume any specific role in the Arab-Israeli peace process, but it stands ready to offer "its good offices," he said.

During his visit to Jordan, Mr. Hansenne also held talks with her Royal Highness Princess Basma, Prime Minister Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker and Mr. Kabariti.

He also met with the President of the Central Council of Labour Unions in Jordan Fauzi Bassa.

## Kabariti, ALO chief review preparations for labour meeting

AMMAN (Petra) — Preparations for a general Arab labour conference to be held in Amman in the first week of April 1993 were reviewed at a meeting here Monday by Labour Minister Abdul Karim Kabariti and visiting Director General of the Arab Labour Organisation (ALO) Mohammad Baker Rasoul.

A statement said after the meeting that the Amman conference was approved by the General Arab Labour Conference, held recently in Tripoli.

According to the statement, the Tripoli meeting also set up a higher joint committee grouping the ALO and the Ministry of Labour to prepare for the Amman conference.

Labour Ministry officials said the committee is scheduled to hold meetings in Amman in October 1992 and March 1993 to discuss an agenda for the conference.



Abdul Karim Kabariti  
Ministry of Labour Secretary General Saleh Tarawneh said

that the meeting between Mr. Kabariti and the ALO chief reviewed initial steps to be taken in preparing for the conference. He said that specialists who attended Monday's meeting have now approved an initial programme and set up a sub-committee to deal with technical issues.

The committee preparing for the conference includes representatives of governments, workers and employers.

Mr. Rasoul expressed hope that the coming meeting would help Arab states to open a new chapter in their relations and cooperation in labour-related fields.

## Consul in Saudi assumes duties

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan's consul in Jeddah Mohammad Ali Taher left Amman for Saudi Arabia Sunday to assume his post. Mr. Taher said prior to his departure that he will work hard on bolstering Jordanian-Saudi relations and serving the Jordanian community in Saudi Arabia.

## HOME NEWS IN BRIEF

### Regent congratulates Libya

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, Monday sent cable to Libyan Leader Muammar Qaddafi congratulating him on the anniversary of the Sept. 1 revolution. Prince Hassan wished Mr. Qaddafi good health and happiness and the Libyan people further progress and prosperity.

### Swedish delegation due in Amman

AMMAN (J.T.) — A delegation from the Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs of the Swedish Parliament will arrive in Amman Tuesday for talks with Jordanian officials on latest developments in the Arab-Israeli peace negotiations and the democratisation process in the Kingdom. The Swedish delegation is headed by Mr. Pierre Schori, vice chairman of the Standing Committee and former vice minister. The delegation is expected to meet with His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, Speaker of the Lower House of Parliament Abdul-Latif Arabiyat, Chairman of Foreign Affairs Committees of the Upper and Lower Houses of Parliament Marwan Al Qasbi and Hussni Al Shayyab, as well as with the Acting Minister of Foreign Affairs, Information Minister Mahmoud Al Sharif.

### Sharif meets with ASCO director

AMMAN (Petra) — Information Minister and Acting Foreign Minister Mahmoud Al Sharif Monday met with Deputy Director of the Arab Satellites Communication Organisation (ASCO) Saeed Al Qahatani and Director of ASCO's Public Relations Omar Shoter. The meeting discussed Jordan's relations with ASCO and telephone and television services that would reach the Arab World through the second generation of Arab satellites to be launched in 1995. The meeting was attended by Director General of the Radio and Television Corporation Radhi Alkhus. Mr. Sharif received also Director of Information at the United Nations headquarters Samir Sambar. Mr. Sharif and Mr. Sambar discussed the role of the U.N. in the Middle East and coordination between the U.N. information administration and the Jordanian mass media.

### Samra to leave for China

AMMAN (Petra) — Culture Minister Mahmoud Al Samra will leave for China Wednesday on an eight-day visit during which he will hold talks with Chinese officials on Jordanian-Chinese cultural relations and ways of enhancing them. Dr. Samra is also expected to discuss with Chinese officials the national library project, which will be established in Jordan through a loan from the Chinese government. The minister is accompanied on the visit by Director of the National Library and Documentation Department Usama T. Qadadi.

### 8 dead, 182 injured in car accidents

AMMAN (Petra) — Eight people died and 182 others were injured in 375 car accidents which took place in the last week of August, according to Traffic Department's weekly statistical bulletin. The bulletin said 30 per cent of the casualties were under age of 10, 22.6 per cent between 10-20 years old, 24.7 per cent between 21-30 years, 11.1 per cent between 31-40, 7.4 per cent between 41-50 and 4.2 per cent old than 51.

### Relief organisation to open office in Jordan

AMMAN (Petra) — Deputy Director of the Jordan National Red Crescent Society (JNRCS) Mohammad Mitleg Al Hadid returned to Amman from Geneva Monday. While in Geneva, Dr. Hadid met with the director general and the secretary general of the Red Cross and Red Crescent League and discussed with them issues pertaining to establishing a regional office for the league in Amman to serve national societies in the region. Dr. Hadid was authorised by the league to undertake all the necessary measures to establish the league's regional office in Amman. The league is currently carrying out relief operations in Syria, Lebanon, Iraq and Yemen.

### Deputies stress need to open consulate in Venezuela

AMMAN (Petra) — The conditions of the Jordanian community in Venezuela were the main issues under discussion Monday in a meeting between Deputy Speaker of the Lower House of Parliament Abdul Karim Al Dughmi and Musa Arrar, the representative of the Arab Palestinian Club in Venezuela. Mr. Dughmi stressed at the meeting the need to establish an honorary consulate in Venezuela to serve Jordanian nationals. The consulate would be serving 18,000 Jordanian nationals in Venezuela and 15,000 in Colombia. Mr. Arrar was also received by Chairman of the Houses Foreign Affairs Committee Hussni Al Shayyab. Dr. Shayyab voiced to Mr. Arrar the pride the Jordanian parliament talks in the stands of the Jordanian community in Venezuela and the true sense of belonging its members have to their country and nation. Dr. Shayyab also affirmed the importance of holding diplomatic representation in Venezuela to serve the Jordanian community and their interests.

## WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

### Exhibitions

- ★ Exhibition of paintings by Adnan Al Hela at the Royal Cultural Centre.
- ★ Art exhibition by Abdul Jabbar Ahmad at the Royal Cultural Centre.
- ★ Exhibition entitled, "Exploring Science" at Fatima Al Zahraa Comprehensive School for Girls, Irbid.
- ★ Art exhibition by Kamal Al Jawhari at Irbid Municipality hall.
- ★ Comprehensive book exhibition at Irbid Cultural Centre.

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## Jordan Times

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## Responsibility is great

THE PROBLEM of overuse of pesticides and insecticides in Jordan has been drawing much attention and concern ever since the Jordan Valley became the prime area for agricultural and fruit production in the Kingdom. Many articles had been written on the subject with a view to ending the irresponsible way pesticides and insecticides are sometimes used in the country's agricultural production. Scientists privy to the findings on the dire consequences of these chemicals on health have repeatedly warned that unless Jordan moves quickly to exert greater and better control over the use of these carcinogenic agents, the country could end up being among the countries that suffer from a high percentage of cancer cases. All of these sounds of alarm have unfortunately gone unheeded and the government has yet to start a big campaign to control this huge health hazard. What exacerbates this problem is the fact that the government has available to it a confidential report on the extent of the damage to health in Jordan due to the wrong use of pesticides and insecticides. Should the government be ignorant of the full implications of the use of these highly dangerous chemicals, its position could be more understandable. But having access to scientific data on the health hazards caused by such chemicals and sleeping on it, to say the least, is irresponsible. And when centres for testing the degree of toxicity in the agricultural produce that Jordanians eat are not properly kept or left understaffed then there is an unacceptable state of affairs that warrants direct intervention by the highest authorities. There is also an economic side to this issue. Jordan can never hope to become an important exporter of fruits and vegetables as long as Jordanian products are contaminated with dangerous materials. Last week's ban on Jordanian produce by Saudi Arabia is only one of the visible signs that all is not well with our agricultural production. It is high time therefore that the government stepped in effectively and swiftly before the country delved further into the danger zone of pesticides. The first order of business in this situation is to issue specific guidelines and the creation of machinery for their strict and honest application. Severe penalties must be imposed on all those farmers who violate these standards. Secondly, random testing and on-spot examination of farms on periodic basis need to be introduced as a matter of urgency in order to make sure that farmers get the message loud and clear that they cannot endanger lives of consumers and get away with it. Follow-up testing of produce being offered to Jordanians must also be undertaken before they are sold in the market. Last but not least a continuous educational campaign must be introduced with a view to making the public aware of the problem. This way the people can become active participants in the efforts to eradicate the misuse of these chemicals by boycotting produce that is suspect. It is bad enough that we have waited so long to recognise the existence of the danger. Now is the time to act and act right and fast.

## ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

AL RA'I Arabic daily described the U.S.-imposed no-fly zone on southern Iraq as one aspect of immorality characterising the U.S. administration and its British and French allies. This act of aggression, which can only be committed by criminals, is directed against all human values and principles, said the daily. History will record that between August 1990 and August 1992 the Western powers committed shameful acts against mankind by starving a whole nation and committing aggression and crimes against civilian population, the paper continued. It is to be recorded in history that President Bush, in his drive to retain the White House, thought that the best arena to meet his opponent Bill Clinton is southern Iraq, and the best means to come out victorious in November 1992 is through further killings and more atrocities committed against the people of Iraq, the daily said. Equally shameful are the attitudes of Britain and France, which are hand in glove with the United States in its conspiracy against the Arab people and against the survival of the Iraqi children, the paper added. There is no doubt that Iraq will survive the present onslaught and that aggression will end with ignominious consequences to the aggression, said the paper. No crime committed by the United States, even if it involves dropping atomic bombs like those dropped on Japan, can change the course of history or win Mr. Bush and his allies any glory, continued the daily. It said that the Iraqis are a great nation and their country has served as the cradle of civilisation since the beginning of history on earth, therefore, there can be no doubt about the final defeat of the aggressors who harbour evil designs for the Arab nation.

Al Dustour daily discussed the ongoing sixth round of Arab-Israeli negotiations in Washington, noting that the first week of the four-week session has come to nought due to Israel's intransigent position. The daily said that the Arab side had gone to Washington full of hope that the Rabin government would take a different stand from the hardened policies of Yitzhak Shamir and his Likud government, but the Arabs are now disappointed. The Arab parties to the negotiations had hoped that the sixth round would focus attention on substantive matters related to the Arab-Israeli conflict and the Palestine question, but they were astonished to find out that the Israelis are more or less adopting similar positions to those of the Likud government, said the daily. The paper said that the Israelis have offered the Palestinian side ideas that contradict those contained in the American letters sent to all the Arab parties turning them to the negotiations. The same Israeli intransigent position towards the Palestinians characterised the Jewish state's views with regard to the other Arab parties which have already expressed their dismay noting that Israel is not offering ideas that could serve as a basis to start substantive talks, it said. As was noticed by the Palestinians, as well as other parties to the Washington parley, said the paper, the Israelis have not mentioned U.N. Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338, which Israel still refuses to recognise let alone any desire to implement them. The second week of negotiations, scheduled to start Monday, added, the paper, could expose the Israelis even further not only to the Arab parties, but also to the sponsors of the peace process and the world at large.

## The View from Fourth Circle

# Truth vs. the knitters: Wanna bet who wins?

THE "air exclusion zone" established over southern Iraq by the Bush-Major Loins-Over-Logic School of Diplomacy is a sad but inevitable continuation of the sort of fantasy we witnessed during the Gulf crisis and war some two years ago. Is it any surprise that two years after the initial Iraqi invasion and occupation of Kuwait, and the speediest Western military response since the days of Billy the Kid and the OK Corral, the premier Western military power (the U.S.) and its head cheerleader (the U.K.), with the apparently uncomfortable but trapped French in tow, should once again be performing aerial and diplomatic acrobatics over the skies of the Middle East?

Given modern Western history in this region, it is no surprise at all — and given the reaction of average American people, I have talked to and heard over the last two weeks, both in the United States and through the media, this time the American public is unlikely to fall for Mr. Bush's extravaganza of media and moral bluster (the British public, alas, is perhaps another matter, and no doubt next week we will see television pictures of old ladies in Leeds and Leicester knitting sweaters for some of the undernourished fish in the marshes of southern Iraq — the birds of the Gulf having been heroically saved by last year's monumental wave of British post-imperial empathy to Middle Eastern animals).

I ridicule the U.S. and U.K. posture in southern Iraq precisely because it is ridiculous, as more and more of their own people are recognising. The truth becomes more obvious. Bush-Major will do anything to remove Saddam Hussein, and remain in power in their own countries. The West cannot possibly tolerate or permit an Arab-Islamic power to challenge the political order, official state frontiers, economic dependency patterns, or Orient-to-Occident monetary flows that were established in this region in the post-World War I period by the Europeans, namely the British and French.

The Iraqi leadership, and President Saddam Hussein in particular, remain as piercing thorns in the side of a neoimperial Western psyche that believes it has triumphed over the entire planet Earth. The West thinks the Middle East, especially the Arab World, is calm and stable. Most Middle Easterners, especially most Arabs, know the Middle East is a loaded powder keg of social inequity, economic disparity, and brittle statehood that cannot long withstand its internal tensions — but also that cannot be stabilised by an external military force such as the Bush-Major team have resorted to once again this month.

This is why I refer to the Bush-Major approach as the Loins-over-Logic School of Diplomacy — for these men and all those behind them are reacting according to the animistic impulses of their loins and the emotional impulses of their egos, rather than the cool facts of logic and the reality of history. Rather than wage the Gulf war and intervene in Iraq again today, it would have been much easier — and a lot cheaper — if the West had not armed, financed, supplied, and strengthened Iraq in the 1980s, and if it had spent the last several decades working with those forces within the Middle East that sought democracy and justice as the operative principles of nationhood.

Instead, since the 1950s the West has been busy supporting autocratic and militaristic regimes in the Middle East, leading to the ridiculous situation that has seen it support the Shah of Iran as the guardian of the regional status quo, and then, when the Shah

was thrown out by his people, supporting Iraq as the new guardian of the status quo — and when Iraq turned angry and predatory, the West turned to folks such as Saudi Arabia and Egypt as the new guardians of the status quo.

Why is it that at no point in the last four decades did the West seriously consider asking what the people of the Arab and Islamic World wanted, as opposed to their narrow, military-based regimes? And what will the West do when Saudi Arabia, Egypt, and other pivotal actors in the increasingly desperate new game of keep-the-lid-on-the-Middle-East face internal changes brought on by their own people's massive sense of shame and denial? Such changes will occur as surely as the sun will rise tomorrow — for isn't that the lesson of the recent turmoil in Lebanon, Somalia, Algeria, Djibouti, Yemen, Tunisia, Egypt, the Western Sahara, Palestine, and other Arab lands that struggle to remain intact in the face of powerful, ethnically centrifugal forces for sheer survival?

Though we share the West's criticism of the political morality of the Iraqi regime, and we do not wish to live in an autocratic and rigid system such as Iraq's, most of us in the Arab World fiercely reject the transparent and facile Western notion that American, British and French politicians can suddenly decide that they must use military force to protect this or that Arab minority or ethnic groups from the threats of this or that Arab government.

Western military intervention and ethnic manipulation in the Middle East have been key sources of our modern political dilemma, rather than solutions to our problems. The selective, whimsical, arbitrary, and fleeting nature of the West's "concern" for the well-being of — in this case — the Shiites of southern Iraq strikes most Arabs as an extraordinary charade mandated primarily by the Loins-over-Logic crowd's frustration that Saddam Hussein is still in power — and frustration that the fantasy scenario of the Gulf war is being revealed, after all, as a fantasy. For the underlying problems of the Middle East that give rise to a Saddam Hussein or to Iraqi-style regimes are all still there, and have probably worsened because of the Gulf war (witness, for example, the question of capital flow from Kuwait — or do we no longer discuss Kuwait because it is no longer a leading story on British television?).

One asks: Where was the West's concern for the Shiites of southern Iraq when the West was providing Baghdad with billions of dollars of aid and military material? Did the government in Baghdad then provide the Shiites with models of the Love Boat? One also asks: Is the suffering of Shiites in the south of Iraq any worse than the suffering of ordinary people in the centre or east or west of the country? And what about other minorities in other Arab or Middle Eastern countries? What must they do to warrant protection?

In almost every Arab and Middle Eastern country, and certainly most of those who are partners with the West in the phantasmagoric cash register coalition, one or more minority groups can legitimately complain of suffering human and political rights denials. The magnitude may not be as severe as in southern Iraq, mainly because Iraqi southerners heeded the simplistic exhortations of the Bush-Major types and rose up in armed rebellion against Baghdad in early 1991. Is it any surprise that Baghdad fights back, and that Iraqi southerners suffer accordingly?

Is this really about the well-being of the Shiites in southern Iraq, or is it only a piece from a much larger historical puzzle —

the elusive puzzle of Middle Eastern coherent statehood and viable nationhood? The puzzle has its origins in the artificiality of the modern Arab political order that was the work of European imperial powers in the early decades of this century — but it cannot find its solution in the militarism and selective, self-serving interventionism of the same Western powers.

The solution to Middle Eastern instability, militarism, violence and tension must emanate from the identity and the free choice of the people of the region themselves. The chronic turmoil of Lebanon, the smoldering angst of Algeria, the chilling death count in Somalia, the permanent insecurity of the Kurds, the deceptive calm in Egypt, and the increasingly more hollow shell of Kuwait are all testament to the fates of Arab states that allow themselves to become pawns in the power plays of Western politicians and their armies. The Shiites and other people of southern Iraq are joining a rather disreputable club that is being harshly discredited by history — the roll call of mandatory subjects that were unable to forge their own rational political orders, and turned in desperation to the false security of insecure Western politicians.

The political morality of the Iraqi regime and the plight of the Shiites of southern Iraq and the Kurds of northern Iraq are all symptoms of the deeper problems and disequilibria that have plagued the Middle East during this entire century. They cannot be treated in isolation of their underlying causes — but this is precisely what the West is trying to do. It did not work in the past and it will not work today.

It is important today for people throughout the Middle East to muster the courage and the honesty to stand up — even in the face of desperate Western politicians and reckless Arab leaders waving dollars in one hand and high-tech bombs in the other — and say so directly and repeatedly. We will be attacked as supporters of Saddam Hussein and his aggressions, which we are not. We will be branded romantic Arab nationalists and dreamers, which we are. We will be accused of blaming the West for all our problems, which we do not. Nevertheless, the truths of history will prevail, and the desperate and the reckless amongst us will be exposed for what they are — expedient and scared politicians who abandoned the responsibility of national leadership in favour of the enticements of short-term incumbency and material comforts.

The truths of history will prevail when those blinded by the fury of electoral battle in the United States, and those numbed by the peculiarly skewed moral roar of ten thousand British old ladies furiously knitting sweaters for ailing animals in the Arabian Gulf, finally wake up from their fantastic historical escapade and address the real needs of the human beings of the Middle East. It is appropriate that southern Iraq should speed up this process, for southern Iraq is one of the places where human civilisation started, including the quest for viable societies and durable nations governed by law. Nowhere, at any time, in any place, throughout the entire history of the world, has this goal been achieved through the force of armies from half way across the world. Wanna bet it will not be achieved again in southern Iraq? Knit on, ladies, as furiously as you can, but recognise that you knit in savage ignorance of the world, in sad deceit by your own leaders, and in cruel contempt of the truths of history and the reality of human nature.

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## Bush, Clinton show marked contrast of styles

By Michael Posner

WASHINGTON — President George Bush and his Democratic challenger Bill Clinton are showing sharply contrasting campaign styles in the run-up to the U.S. presidential election on November 3.

Plunging into the campaign after the Republican convention nominated him and Vice President Dan Quayle to stand for another four-year term, Mr. Bush has shown a harder, sharper edge.

He has attacked Mr. Clinton with questions about his integrity and charges that his economic programme will create higher unemployment. Mr. Clinton and vice presidential running mate Al Gore have hammered away in somewhat softer terms at a familiar theme that the economy is the fault of Mr. Bush and Republican economic policies.

Democrats deny Mr. Clinton and Mr. Gore were put on the defensive by hard-hitting Republican attacks.

But Mr. Clinton's camp spent much of the week after the Republican convention responding to attack from Mr. Bush and Mr. Quayle on issues from trade to the environment.

Mr. Bush's two-faced style, including suggestions the Democrats had no interest in God and that Mr. Clinton "will say anything to get elected," revived memories of his assaults on Democrat Michael Dukakis in 1988.

But there was a big difference. While Mr. Bush wiped out Mr. Dukakis's 17-point lead in public opinion polls during the 1988 Republican convention, he left the 1992 conclave still behind Mr. Clinton.

The latest Time/CNN poll had Mr. Clinton leading by 46 per cent to 40 per cent for Mr. Bush, while a Newsweek poll had Mr. Clinton up by 49 to 39 per cent. Both polls were released on Saturday.

"It's been a very good week," said Bush-Quayle spokeswoman Torie Clarke, who told Reuters the campaign's own polling has Mr. Bush behind by about nine to 12 percentage points.

"We've been making some ground on individual issues," she said. "The message that we want less taxes and less spending and Bill Clinton guarantees more taxes and more spending is getting through."

The Clinton camp fired back at each attack, sometimes in comments from the candidate himself and sometimes in written campaign statements, but always in reply to a Bush broadside.

During the week, Mr. Bush dramatised the advantage an incumbent president has as he took on the role of commander-in-chief at home and abroad.

He announced the United States and its Western allies were declaring and enforcing a no-fly zone to bar Iraqi planes from flying in south Iraq against Shiite Muslims.

At home Mr. Bush took some criticism for acting slowly to aid victims of hurricane Andrew in south Florida but then scot troops, food and water, mobile kitchens and tents to help those affected by the storm. He cancelled a planned weekend trip to his summer home in Maine to monitor hurricane relief.

On the campaign trail, Mr. Bush attacked Mr. Clinton's economic policies. During one appearance in St. Louis, he called the Democrat an opportunist and a fear-monger for trying to arouse opposition to foreigners by proposing to tax their U.S. investments.

The targeting of Mr. Clinton's economic programme was orchestrated by his new White House chief of staff, former Secretary of State James Baker, White House sources said.

It was designed to strike at Mr. Clinton's claim that Mr. Bush has no economic programme.

Mr. Clinton was described as upbeat on the campaign trail. He and Mr. Gore returned to a tactic that has served them well since their own nominating convention in July, taking a two-day bus tour through Texas.

Democratic spokeswoman Ginny Terzano said Mr. Bush's opening post-convention drive did not match up to the "wildly successful" first week of Mr. Clinton and Mr. Gore.

"They (Republicans) had to explain mean-spiritedness, the attacks that they threw at Mrs. Clinton (during the Houston convention) and President Bush had to respond to criticism of voters that he has not been on top of the economic crisis in this country," she said.

Even hurricane Andrew has worked against the president, Ms. Terzano said.

"The hurricane has been part of this... people are feeling bitter about the administration's policies over the last three years — that they have focused so much on other countries' economic well-being while they have just not paid attention to the problems, never mind the solutions, at home."



## Arabs who supported allies in Gulf war now sitting on sidelines

By Edith M. Lederer  
The Associated Press

MANAMA, BAHRAIN — The Arab states that rallied to support the U.S.-led coalition during the Gulf war are sitting on the sidelines as allied planes enforce a flight ban over southern Iraq.

Even Saudi Arabia, the only Arab nation providing significant help to the allies, has only tacitly supported them in the latest dispute with Saddam Hussein.

Kuwait, which was liberated by the coalition after seven months of Iraqi occupation, has been the sole Middle East country to welcome the joint U.S., British and French air operation. But even its support has cooled.

On Thursday, the day allied warplanes began flying over southern Iraq to protect dissident Shiite Muslims, an official Kuwaiti government statement ignored the operation and spouted the same line as its Arab neighbours: The territorial integrity of Iraq must be preserved.

"It is difficult to ignore our fears of partitioning Iraq, and Arabs always fear foreign intervention," Abdullah Al-Nahar, a member of the Kuwaiti opposition, said Friday. "But on the

other hand, the situation of the Iraqi people is tragic, and Saddam Hussein's regime is a threat to the area."

The Gulf war allies were able to overcome this ambivalence because an Arab Nation was occupied, and countries like Egypt and Syria believed Iraq posed a military threat not only to Kuwait but to the region and were willing to fight. Now, most Arabs don't see any Iraqi threat.

Only Saudi Arabia agreed to allow allied warplanes to use its bases, but it has barred the Western media, kept domestic coverage very low-key, and issued only one statement calling for the preservation of Iraq's territorial integrity.

The Gulf states sent troops to fight in the Gulf war, and in the case of Bahrain, Qatar, Oman and the United Arab Emirates also allowed their bases to be used by the allies.

"The Arabs don't have the same sense of urgency of dealing with Saddam Hussein as Western powers do. They believe history will take its course," said Dr. Rosemary Holis, a Middle East expert at the London-based Royal United Services Institute for Defence Studies who recently visited the region.

Dr. Holis said many Arabs told her Saddam Hussein's recent execution of 54 merchants for alleged corruption "was a clear signal that something was amiss and they asked, why intervene further? Already things are taking their own course. Leave it alone," she said.

"There is a lot of cynicism in the Arab World that I came across about this being done to boost President Bush's reelection chances," she said in a telephone interview.

The Bush administration's goal — getting rid of Saddam Hussein — has widespread public support in the Gulf. Government-backed newspapers in Kuwait, Saudi Arabia and Abu Dhabi have called for the Iraqi leader's ouster. But few Arab nations are convinced the allied "no-fly" zone over the southern marshes will topple him.

Some Arab diplomats fear the operation may escalate into a military confrontation of unknown dimensions which could enhance Saddam Hussein's popularity — but their overriding worry is partition.

Throughout the Middle East, fear of Iraq being divided into ethnic or religious statelets as a result of the allied campaign has

united Baghdad's friends like Jordan and Yemen with enemies including Syria and Egypt. The Kurds are already operating semi-autonomously in northern Iraq following allied intervention after the Gulf war, and the current allied operation could give rise to a Shiite Muslim state in southern Iraq, strongly influenced by neighbouring Iran. This would leave only a central Sunni Muslim dominated region controlled by Baghdad.

Arab nations are worried that a Shiite state in the south would not only fan fundamentalism in the region but also become a precedent for Shiite and other minorities in the Middle East. During earlier years of Iran's Islamic revolution, Shiite communities in Bahrain and elsewhere were used to stir up trouble.

The possibility of a Kurdish state has provoked similar fears in Turkey, Iran and Syria, which all have Kurdish minorities. Turkey, a NATO ally of the United States which supported the Gulf war, fears partition could strengthen rebellious Turkish Kurds and has been very cool to the current allied initiative.



## Peace talks resume in Washington

(Continued from page 1)

power in Israel two months ago. Israel said U.N. Resolution 242, which speaks of Israel trading land for peace, applied to the Golan. The previous Israeli government ruled out any kind of withdrawal from the strategic plateau.

The Syrians told the Israelis they accepted that the final goal of the talks was a full peace agreement.

Mr. Rabin said Monday Israel would never concede the entire Golan Heights in a peace treaty with Syria and would oppose the creation of an independent Palestinian state.

"I'm not convinced yet that Syria is ready to say yes to a fully fledged peace treaty with Israel," Mr. Rabin told an audience of fund-raisers for the United Jewish Appeal.

Mr. Rabin said he would not "repeat the precedent that the Likud government made in signing the peace treaty with Egypt (so that) the last square inch of Egyptian sovereign soil was re-

turned."

As for negotiations on Palestinian autonomy, Mr. Rabin said that "they have to understand we are talking about an interim agreement, about a transitional period, not the creation of an independent Palestinian state."

He added that the contentious issue of Jerusalem would not be part of the autonomy talks.

Israeli Police Minister Moshe Shahal said Monday that if peace talks produce Palestinian self-rule, he expected a joint Israeli-Palestinian force would run the bridge crossing into Jordan.

During a visit to the bridge, Mr. Shahal said he would like to improve conditions for Palestinian travellers who undergo stringent security checks and need hours to get from one side to the other.

Earlier this summer thousands of Palestinians waited to enter the occupied territories, some for days, after the Israelis limited the number allowed to come during the peak travel period. It said it did not have enough security personnel to handle more arrivals.

## Saudis ban Jordanian produce

(Continued from page 1)

ensure the pesticides used were in line with European Community (EC) and United States standards.

Farmers were being advised on what products to use and when to harvest. A laboratory was routinely monitoring against pesticide residue and all export shipments were accompanied by a clean bill of health, he said.

Several farmers said they

were concerned that the Saudi ban might prompt the EC to halt imports of Jordanian agricultural produce, now running at up to 3,000 tonnes a year.

But Dr. Khasawneh said he was not concerned: "We have had no problems with exports to the EC... in addition to our tests they also do their own."

Fruit and vegetable exports are one of Jordan's chief hard currency earners.

## Non-aligned states take strong stand

(Continued from page 1)

political and economic lobby for developing countries with an independent voice in world affairs, while getting away from the often stale anti-imperialist rhetoric that marked it in the past.

"The most important thing that we could do in Jakarta would be to chart the future role of the Non-Aligned Movement in a changing world," Mr. Misa told a news conference. "We have to be as fast as the developments in the world."

But even though the movement has become bigger than ever before, many leaders are staying at home because of what officials described as domestic problems.

Prominent absentees include Cuba's Fidel Castro, Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak, Iraqi President Saddam Hussein, Nigeria's Ibrahim Babangida and Algeria's Ali Kafi.

Also missing will be Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi.

This year, to the annoyance of some delegations, the preliminary meetings of senior officials and foreign ministers were devoted, sometimes acrimoniously,

almost entirely to whether to expel the ramp state of Yugoslavia.

Islamic states, reacting to atrocities against Muslims and others in Bosnia-Herzegovina, insisted that Belgrade no longer represented the country which helped found the movement in 1961 to straddle the East-West divide.

African countries challenged the move. The ministers eventually decided to defer the issue and base their decision on what the United Nations decides during the General Assembly session which starts in two weeks in New York.

Delegates said the divisiveness reflects the huge range the movement covers. It unites countries like Brunei, whose sultan is reputedly the world's richest man, and Somalia, which is torn by civil war and where more than a million people face starvation.

Economic issues will be a key area of the summit, with discussion focusing on how to reduce the Third World's foreign debt of more than \$1 trillion.

## Abuse of pesticides in Jordan

(Continued from page 1)

informed expert told the Jordan Times, echoing similar statements made by farmers and agricultural engineers who insist that governmental control on the farmers' behaviour was also lacking. They contradicted Dr. Khasawneh's statement that 95 per cent of farmers were well aware of how to use the pesticides, saying that more farmers abuse them than those who properly apply them.

If the instructions on the labels of the pesticides are not followed — which mainly include a time period before harvest, termed "pre-harvest interval," and the amount permitted for use — the effects on the consumer could be hazardous to the health, according to agricultural experts.

The systemic pesticides — those that destroy pests from the inside of the produce, and which are the ones used, and most often abused, by farmers — have a pre-harvest interval of up to three weeks. These contain

organophosphates and carbamates, which — if harvested before its pre-harvest interval — affects the cholinergic enzyme. This enzyme is the human body, according to an expert, is in the central nervous system and responsible for transmitting messages from the brain to other organs in the body. In other words, if these materials are not properly used and its residues are left behind in the agricultural produce, the effects on the human's central nervous system could be hazardous.

According to a study conducted jointly by the Jordanian government and the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) in 1987, "the main areas of abuse (of pesticides) include over-application and inadequate pre-harvest application..." such behaviour by farmers, the report stated, "results in excessive levels of pesticide residues in local fruits and vegetables and potential health and environmental problems."

This report, which was obtained by the Jordan Times, was the most recent comprehensive study conducted. Agriculture Ministry sources said that the situation has not improved

since 1987 because of lack of official control of the use of pesticide. The 1987 report had stated that over-application of these materials was "very difficult to control since they require on-farm training, monitoring and enforcement."

Ministry officials, however, maintain that the government is doing everything it can to monitor the farmers' behaviour, and that Jordan is the only country in the region that has a pest residue laboratory with highly advanced equipment and trained staff to analyse the residue in the fruit and vegetables.

The lab, partly financed by the German government, "does not have the capacity to do widespread testing on a regular basis," according to the report. In a question. Well-informed sources said that most of the analyses are done on imported crops, but cannot handle monitoring the farmers and checking all the local crops because there is not enough equipment and trained staff.

However, employees at the lab told the Jordan Times that the ministry had plans to expand the lab, with German assistance, and bring more highly-qualified staff to ensure the safety of the locally-grown crops before they are distributed into the market. The report said that the lab, located in Bagdad, could only handle 10 samples a day.

The report also stated that many of the problems with the crops are a result of pesticide use in plastic houses, where they become more toxic.

"In the Jordan Valley, the plastic house environment combined with excessive application rates and insufficient pre-harvest intervals have resulted in over 40 per cent of the agricultural samples tested having a range of two to 30 times the maximum residue levels (accepted) on cucumbers, peppers and green beans grown in plastic houses," the report said.

The problem for the consumers is that they cannot distinguish whether certain crops have high levels of toxic residues. But experts say that there is no need for panic and that the problem is somewhat exaggerated. Ministry sources said new instructions were given to intensify the analysis of pest residues.

"Educated" farmers who maintain

they follow a strict pesticides programme have cautioned the government that if control on the use of pesticides continued to be neglected, not only will the local consumers eventually suffer, but the whole country's reputation will also be at stake.

"One ignorant farmer who exports crops with toxic residue to the West could ruin the entire export business for all the others," one farmer and exporter told the Jordan Times.

At the beginning of next year, the European Community (EC) will implement strict regulations on all crops being imported and will be tested before entry despite any certificate from the country of origin. Currently, the EC accepts certificates that say the products are up to standard from the countries of origin. But by next year, if a Jordanian farmer sends produce that are infected with toxic residue, the EC would stop importing the products for a certain period of time from any farmer in the country, according to exporters.

"Maybe our farmers will learn their lesson after thousands of dinars worth of their infected crops is destroyed as a penalty," one agricultural engineer said.

The current penalty for finding crops infected with pest residues is only JD 100, "so the farmer can afford to abuse the pesticide," said one farmer.

All farmers and agricultural engineers who spoke to the Jordan Times said that the problem of infected crops has been around for years in the Kingdom, and that it was time the government did something to enforce its regulations.

"There must be supervisors from the government to not only educate the farmers, but also to be in the field monitoring the proper use of pesticides and imposing stiff penalties against those who do not follow the proper instructions," said one farmer.

The 1987 report recommended adequate enforcement of current government regulations and publishing risks and penalties. "It is essential," the report said "to provide adequate training of agricultural workers, dealers, as well as health officials."

"Educating the farmers with a general awareness campaign is needed through the media and agricultural institutions," one engineer stressed.

## New U.N. team arrives in Iraq

(Continued from page 1)

Insisting on not being identified, the travellers also said dozens of Soviet-designed T-72 tanks were sent from Baghdad south in recent days.

But they said the tanks were deployed north of the 32nd Parallel, mainly in the city of Kut, 160 kilometres south of Baghdad. That suggested Iraq was boosting defences around the capital rather than building up for a ground campaign against the Shiite rebels hiding in the southern marshlands.

The ruling Baath Party appealed for the world's support to defeat the "no-fly" zone, saying it was the most dangerous part of a plot to partition Iraq and other Arab states.

In a statement, the National Command of the Arab Baath Socialist Party headed by President Saddam accused Iran of providing the pretext for "the Western conspiracy" and called for the Iranian people to rise up.

"The decision by the United States, Britain and France to ban Iraq flights below the 32nd Parallel is the most dangerous chapter in the imperialist-Zionist coalition's plan," said the statement broadcast on Iraqi radio.

Saudi Arabia denied Sunday that its aircraft were helping to enforce the no-fly air exclusion zone.

The Saudi News Agency quoted a "responsible source" at the Defence and Aviation Ministry as saying reports that Saudi aircraft were assisting the air embargo were untrue.

"During their missions, Saudi aircraft of all types did not fly beyond Saudi borders," the source was quoted as saying.

Israel and the U.S. are maintaining low level contacts on the events unfolding in the Gulf, Israeli Radio reported.

The radio reports quoted Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin's office as a source for the contacts, adding that details were not available. But it quoted Israeli sources as saying that Israel and the U.S. had a "basic security agreement" regarding any Iraqi threat on Israel.

## Islamists gain

(Continued from page 1)

of a three-part election followed victories by Hizbollah, its allies and other fundamentalists last week in 10 contests.

Forty-nine seats were decided, but elections were put off indefinitely for five seats in the Christian Kelesan area where there were not enough candidates.

According to official results, two Hizbollah candidates won in Sunday's voting in Beirut. They are Ali Ammar and Mohammad Benjawi, both Shiites.

The Sunni Muslim fundamentalist winners are Zahair Obeid of the Islamic Group and Adnan Traboulsi of the Habashis. The Habashis take their name from their leader, Sheikh Ahmad Habashi, who preaches Islamic puritanism.

## Detainees freed

(Continued from page 1)

with the 4½-year uprising against Israeli occupation. About 4,600 have been convicted, while the others are awaiting trial or held under emergency regulations that require no charge or trial.

About 100 other prisoners were released at a West Bank checkpoint at Dahariya, near Hebron. The army said a total of 182 prisoners were freed in the early-release programme Monday, and 138, others would be set free Tuesday.

Some prisoners said they had been freed a few months early. But several said they were due for release now and one said his release was even delayed by three days.

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## Bubka sets world mark in pole vault; Mitchell takes 100 metres

PADUA, Italy (AP) — Sergei Bubka avenged his Olympic failure by raising his world pole vault records another centimetre (half inch), winning the event at the industry trophy meet in this northern city with a vault of 6.12 metre (20 feet-1 inch).

It was the 31st time the 29-year-old Ukrainian has hiked the world mark, either indoor or outdoor, since 1984, and broke the mark of 6.11 (20-0 1-2) set in Dijon, France on June 13.

Bubka, who lives in Berlin following the dissolution of the Soviet Union, suggested that Sunday's record won't be his last, although he could not predict a date for the next.

"People think it's easy for me. But I can't predict when the next record may come. I am human, not a machine. I will train more and more to improve. I always try to be better," Bubka said.

He will have two opportunities in the next week — the IAAF Grand Prix Final in Turin Friday and the Rieti meeting, near Rome, Sunday.

The "flying Ukrainian," the world champion and 1988 Olympic gold medalist in Seoul, cleared 6.12 on his first attempt, after faulting once at 5.85 (19-2

1-4). He raised his arms in triumph after the record jump and walked toward the grandstand to receive the outstanding ovation of a sold-out crowd of 7,000 at the Arcella Stadium of Padua.

"I was a bit tense following the Olympics and some unimpressive performances in recent meetings," said Bubka, who not only failed to win an Olympic medal in Barcelona earlier this month, "he failed to clear any height at all there, missing on two attempts at 5.70 (18-8 1-2) and once at 5.74 (18-10).

Bubka said he did not want to talk of his flop in Barcelona, possibly due to a tendon inflammation. However, he said that his family was upset with his unexpected defeat in the Olympics.

"Now I want to call my wife and my son Vitaly. He will have his first day of school Tuesday and this record will be a great gift for him," Bubka said. The Ukrainian ace said he had a special feeling before the event.

"I have a special feeling every time I jump in Italy, and I knew this track very well. I am very happy. Now I am looking forward to the next events with great confi-

dence," he said. Italian organisers said Bubka did not get any special bonus or other incentives for his record attempt in Padua.

"He's our long time friend. He made a wonderful gift to us and to the crowd," said Gloria Santi.

Bubka's outstanding performance stole the limelight from other athletes, including four Olympic champions.

Olympic gold medalist Mark McKoy of Canada dominated the 100-metre hurdles beating Florian Schwarhoff of Germany in 13.44 seconds.

U.S. sprinter Dennis Mitchell won the 100 metres in 10.43 seconds, edging veteran teammate Calvin Smith. Smith finished second also in the 200 metres, won by American Mike Bates in 20.87 seconds.

Other U.S. wins were scored by Jim Spivey in the 1,500 metres and by Jim Doehring in the shot-put.

Spivey won in 3 minutes, 36.28 seconds, ahead of Kenyans Wilfred Kirochi and Jonah Birir who were timed in 3:37.24 and 3:37.61.

German Heike Drechsler, leaping more than 7 metres for the 20th time this year, won the women's long jump with 7.02



Sergei Bubka in action

(23-0 1-2).

Russian sprinter Irina Privalova dominated the women's 100 metres in 11.36 seconds, beating teammate Marina Trandenkova and American Dyan Webber.

## Barcelona gets set for largest-ever Paralympic Games

BARCELONA (AP) — One month after strapping what many believe was the best Olympic Games of the modern era, the city of Barcelona is getting ready to do it all over again.

The ninth Paralympic Games gets under way Sept. 3, and by the time they conclude 11 days later, more than 4,200 disabled athletes and officials will have competed in 15 sports ranging from archery and table tennis to wheelchair basketball and blind jiu-jitsu.

A record 86 nations have sent squads to Barcelona — 24 more than competed in Seoul four years ago — making these the largest Paralympic Games in history. Barcelona is just discovering the tolerance required to stage such an event. The 2,000-year-old capital of Catalonia includes few of the provisions vital to disabled person's day-to-day existence, such as "kneeling" buses, "audible" crosswalks or wheel-

chair ramps.

In fact, architects drawing up the renovation plans for Montjuic Stadium several years ago initially forgot to include wheelchair ramps, meaning that the athletes who intended to compete might not even be able to enter the stadium.

"The handicapped problem is something very new to us," said Jose Coll, director of the 1992 Paralympic Games. "Every day we are working to make people aware — this is not therapy sports, this is not rehabilitation. It's a top-quality competition with world class athletes."

Indeed, consciousness-raising is practically a separate event. "I am convinced many sporting records will be broken at the Paralympics," said Miguel Duran, president of the Onco Foundation for the Blind, which is helping organise the event. "But the fundamental target lies in setting a social — not a sport-

ing — record. That's our aim, and we are asking for a lot of help and sensitivity."

The Paralympics are not to be confused with the Special Olympics, which place simple participation by mentally handicapped athletes as the only goal.

The Paralympics are divided into four categories — sports for blind, for amputees and polio victims, for paraplegics and tetraplegics, and for cerebral palsy sufferers — and feature elite athletes who train up to six hours a day.

For instance, U.S. swimmer Beth Scott is among the nation's top 10 junior swimmers despite being blind, while Marta Runyan's blindness hasn't kept her from being one of the top U.S. Heptathletes and a certified 1996 Olympic hopeful.

It's also worth noting that many of the Paralympic records — such as Jose Javier Conde of Spain's 3:54.61 in the men's 1,500-

metres, or Canadian Arnold Boli's 2.04 metres in the high jump — once would have been good enough to challenge for an Olympic gold medal.

The Paralympics were inaugurated in 1960 in Rome, where 400 athletes from 23 nations took part. The games have grown steadily since, often held in the same city or country as the Olympic Games. Atlanta already has announced its intention to stage the Paralympics in conjunction with the 1996 Olympics.

The 1992 Paralympics were organised by the Barcelona Olympic Organising Committee (COOB) at a cost of approximately \$100 million. Many of the same facilities used last month, such as the athletes' village, the pool complex, the shooting range, the archery site, the tennis stadium and the track and field stadium, will host the same Paralympic events.

## Capriati beats Martinez at Mazda Tennis Classic

SAN DIEGO (R) — Second seeded Jennifer Capriati successfully defended her title at the \$225,000 Mazda Tennis Classic by defeating third seeded Conchita Martinez of Spain 6-2 6-2 in 63 minutes Sunday.

The victory was Capriati's first tour title of 1992. Coupled with her gold medal performance at the Olympics, Capriati is one of the favourites going into the U.S.

Open. "I feel really confident after winning the Olympics and winning here," said Capriati, who earned \$45,000. "I think I'm playing well. I didn't want to be totally playing well... Hopefully, that will come at the Open."

Capriati, sixth in the world, outlasted the eighth-ranked Martinez from the baseline throughout the match.

## Korda beats Lendl to win U.S. Open warm-up tournament

COMMACK, New York (R) — Petr Korda of Czechoslovakia warmed up for the U.S. Open by beating Ivan Lendl 6-2 6-2 in just 68 minutes to win the \$265,000 Hamlet Cup men's tennis tournament.

Lendl, the defending champion and seeded third, was unable to solve Korda's strong forehand ground strokes. Korda, a left-hander, went through the five-match tournament without losing a set.

The fourth seeded Korda broke Lendl's service four times, reaching 3-1 in the first set and 5-1 in the second set. They were the first sets Lendl lost this week.

Lendl managed to reach break point twice against Korda's effective service, twice in the second game of the second set.

But Korda erased them with a forehand slice crosscourt shot and an ace.

## Ferreira, Rittner win OTB International titles

SCHENECTADY, New York (R) — Wayne Ferreira of South Africa overcame a dismal second-set tie-breaker to defeat Australian Jamie Morgan 6-2 6-7 (5-7) 6-2 to win the \$225,000 OTB International Tennis Open tournament.

Barbara Rittner of Germany won the women's title and her first championship on the WTA Tour by beating defending champion Brenda Schultz of the Netherlands 7-6 (7-3) 6-3.

## GOREN BRIDGE

WITH OMAR SHARIF & YASMIN WISCH  
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### RUN THE RIGHT TESTS

Both vulnerable. South deals.

**NORTH**  
♠ A J 2  
♥ Q 10 7 3  
♦ A Q J  
♣ A Q J

**EAST**  
♠ 10 9 8 6 5 2  
♥ 9 4  
♦ 5  
♣ 9 8 7 6 3

**SOUTH**  
♠ K Q 3  
♥ A K 10 3  
♦ A 8 4  
♣ K 6 2

The bidding:  
South West North East  
1 ♠ Pass 1 ♠ Pass  
2 NT Pass 7 NT Pass  
Pass Pass

Opening lead: Ten of ♠.  
Was Votmai Tinkov, the Russian emigre, a cavalier suagger? Club members were given to speculation about where he acquired his wealth — he was supporting several players in the rubber-bridge game with his losses, despite being a good bidder and reasonably skilled player. Most of his defeats were caused by failure to take time to study the position before choosing a line of play.

This hand is typical of his affliction. North-South speedily reached their best contract of seven no trump. South's jump rebid showed

19-20 points, and North wasted no time in striving for the maximum — the combined assets included a high-card count of at least 38, and North held a five-card suit as a kicker.

One might think that the play in a grand slam merited some thought, but not for Votmai. There were 12 tricks in high cards, and the 13th could come from dropping either red-suit jack. So after winning the opening lead in hand, Votmai immediately started on diamonds. When West showed out on the second round, declarer switched to hearts. No luck there either. Down one.

A most unfortunate hand to be sure, but declarer made his own bad luck. The diamond suit should have been left to last, when declarer knew as much as possible about the distribution.  
Declarer should first cash out the spade winners, noting that East discarded on the third round. Next come three rounds of hearts, followed by the ace and king of clubs. That establishes that West started with six spades, four hearts and at least two clubs, and therefore, cannot have more than one diamond. A diamond to the king and a finesse of the nine of diamonds on the way back allows South to score four diamond tricks (the queen of clubs remains as an entry to dummy) and the grand slam is in the bank.

## Peanuts



## Andy Capp



## Mutt'n'Jeff



## SPORTS NEWS IN BRIEF

### Uncapped defender joins French squad

PARIS (R) — New manager Gerard Houllier called up uncapped Parisian Jean-Luc Sassi Monday to boost France's defence for their opening World Cup soccer qualifier against Bulgaria in Sofia next week. The 29-year-old St. Germain defender will take the place of rejected off-form veteran Manuel Amoros. Houllier has also dropped Auxerre's sweeper William Prunier, who was unconvincing in France's 2-0 home defeat by Brazil in a friendly last week. "We need lateral defenders against Bulgaria, a very good technical team who play with two wingers. Sassi is one of the best lateral defenders in France," he said. Houllier, who took over from Michel Platini after France's disappointing European Championship in Sweden, is also missing injured playmaker Christian Perez and petulant Leeds United striker Eric Cantona, who has made himself unavailable.

### Muster wins Croatian Open

UMAG, Croatia (AP) — Top-seeded Thomas Muster of Austria rebounded from a second-set loss to defeat Argentina's Franco Davin 6-1, 4-6, 6-4 and win the \$260,000 Croatian Open. Muster said he would donate his tournament winnings of almost \$34,000 to Croatia's refugee relief effort. The former Yugoslav republic has been overwhelmed by hundreds of thousands of refugees forced from their homes in Yugoslavia's violent breakup. Muster, who breezed by most of his earlier opponents in Umag, struggled at times against fifth-seeded Davin in a match that lasted 2 hours, 14 minutes after a rain-delayed start. It was the 24-year-old Muster's third ATP Tour victory this year, following titles at Monte Carlo and Florence.

### Australia's Davis Cup captain stays

SYDNEY (R) — Australia's long-serving Davis Cup captain Neale Fraser, whose job was under threat in a public row over poor results, Monday narrowly won a cliff-hanger vote to stay in the post. But the former Wimbledon and United States Open champion has been re-appointed for only 12 months and been told he must spend a minimum of four months working with the Australian players in the run-up to the 1993 cup campaign. Ex-Davis Cup star John Alexander challenged Fraser for the position, forcing the country's ruling body, Tennis Australia, into the first vote for 40 years for the capacity which Fraser has held since 1970. Tennis Australia's President Geoff Pollard used his casting vote to re-elect Fraser after the game's ruling council was locked at six votes apiece for Alexander and Fraser, who has led Australia to four Davis Cup victories. Pollard said it was one of the most difficult decisions he had ever had to make. "Despite the split vote, council has regrouped and assured me they are 100 per cent behind Neale Fraser," Pollard said in a statement.

### Ashe fund raiser brings out tennis stars

NEW YORK (R) — On the eve of the U.S. Open championships, tennis stars and about 10,000 people turned out Sunday for "Arthur Ashe Day" proclaimed by New York's Mayor David Dinkins in recognition of Ashe's efforts to raise money to fight AIDS. The tribute to Ashe, who contracted the AIDS virus through a blood transfusion in surgery, brought out open competitors such as Jim Courier, ranked number one in the world John McEnroe, Andre Agassi, Pete Sampras, Pam Shriver, Steffi Graf, Monica Seles, Mary Joe Fernandez and Arantxa Sanchez-Vicario. The tennis was strictly on an exhibition level to help raise money for Ashe's newly formed foundation to fight AIDS. But for the record, Agassi defeated Sampras 7-4, and Shriver defeated Sanchez-Vicario 7-3. In the pro/am portion of the fund-raiser, Navratilova and television reporter Mike Wallace beat Dinkins and Seles, the number-one ranked women player in the world.

### FIFA turn down meeting about Maradona

ZURICH (R) — The International Football Federation (FIFA) has turned down a request from Napoli for a meeting about Diego Maradona's future and told the Italians to sort it out themselves. FIFA said Monday they had been contacted by Napoli to discuss the contractual row with their absent Argentine star, who has served his 15-month ban for drug abuse. FIFA official Michel Zen-Ruffinen said: "I can confirm we have received a request from AS Napoli for an urgent meeting with the general secretary to discuss the case of Diego Maradona, but no meeting has been planned for now or the immediate future. Mr. Zen-Ruffinen, assistant to FIFA General Secretary Sepp Blatter and head of the legal department said that as Spanish club Sevilla was interested in signing Maradona, who refuses to return to Napoli, the two clubs should sort out the transfer arrangements themselves.

## HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 1, 1992

By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

**GENERAL TENDENCIES:** Make a special point to do those things today that bring you improved health and vitality and keep you off the stressful side of the track. Doing favors for others brings you closer.

**ARIES:** (March 21 to April 19) Except for some new situation that is apt to be momentarily upsetting this is a great day for you to express your wishes to your usual contacts.

**TAURUS:** (April 20 to May 20) Let a business person express that person's views to you and then you can turn them to your advantage so that you can make considerable gains from them.

**GEMINI:** (May 21 to June 21) You have many good ideas for gaining your intimate aims now and the opposition extended by an outside associate merely pushes you to greater results.

**MOON CHILDREN:** (June 22 to July 21) A private goal can be attained by you now if you do not let some usual activity keep you from handling it in a very intelligent manner.

**LEO:** (July 22 to August 21) Your attachment does not like a friend you need to see and might try to prevent the meeting but make a point to tactfully do so for benefits to follow.

**VIRGO:** (August 22 to September 22) Concentrate upon the worldly

or public part of your activities now and don't let a condition at your residence keep you from a vocational outlet.

**LIBRA:** (September 23 to October 22) Many new ideas are coursing through your mind and they are all good and you can also apply them to some usual daily activity that requires a boost.

**SCORPIO:** (October 23 to November 21) A day to join with those who are experienced in the lines of activity that are important to you and get their advice for your advancement.

**SAGITTARIUS:** (November 22 to December 21) Throw out an idea that you feel can be helpful to you so that a logical minded individual can consider it and you get the best possible advice.

**CAPRICORN:** (December 22 to January 19) You have all kinds of interesting advanced methods for getting your usual activities on a better operative plane and to gain the respect of a bigwig.

**AQUARIUS:** (January 20 to February 19) Consider well what you can do to have a better time pleasing the one of whom you are most fond and happier romantically at this period.

**PISCES:** (February 20 to March 20) Consider today more zip and place at your own residence so that your family will be happier and so there will be more spirit at home.

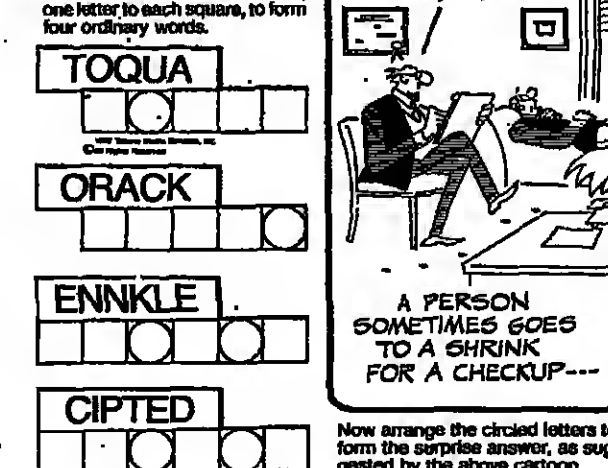
## THE BETTER HALF.



"Are there 200 wet dogs hiding in the house, or is that your feet?"

## JUMBLE.

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.



Print answer here: FROM THE

Yesterday's Jumbles: HEFTY LIGHT MODERN BUSHIE

Answer: Where a person who misbehaves at bars sometimes ends up — BEHIND THEM

## THE Daily Crossword by James L. Beatty





## Uganda to sell all state-owned companies

KAMPALA (R) — Uganda is to sell its loss-making state companies in a sweeping programme aimed at pulling the east African nation out of its economic woes.

Finance ministry officials said President Yoweri Museveni's government, which won power after a five-year bush war in 1986, would sell all 130 state-owned firms.

An advertisement in a local newspaper said the companies ranged from the large but poorly managed coffee board, railways, electricity board, and posts and telecommunications firm to a tiny firm of meat packers and a chain of fresh food stores.

"I support fervently the programme of privatisation. I am tired of corrupt and unpatriotic bureaucrats who do not know the value of social property," President Museveni told reporters recently when asked about his impending ambitious economic reform programme.

Government sources said the sales were at the instigation of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and World Bank.

The sale of companies in which the government has a stake represents a major step towards forcing a change of attitude in firms that have been plagued by bad management and corruption.

"The government of the Republic of Uganda has embarked on a major reform and divestiture programme of its public enterprise sector with a view to reducing financial losses and the administrative burden of maintaining them," the advertisement said.

A finance ministry official told Reuters some firms would be sold outright to the highest bidder, while others would form partnerships with foreign companies or have their assets leased out.

"At the end of it all we shall have no ownership of firms as a government. Our job will be to tax these businesses," he pointed out.

President Museveni's rivals have been quick to charge that the government was auctioning the country.

But President Museveni, who has strongly defended the sales saying his policies would ensure better management and efficiency.

Uganda began its political and economic decline under the flamboyant but bloodthirsty rule of Idi Amin in the 1970s. In one act which threw the economy into chaos, Mr. Amin ordered the expulsion of 70,000 Asians who dominated the business community.

The economy has also suffered from a slump in the world price of coffee, which accounts for 95 per cent of exports.

The IMF has since 1987 led Uganda to reforms such as tighter fiscal policies, agricultural producer price increases, free trade and a widening of the tax base.

## Compaq unveils world's fastest desktop printer

NEW YORK (R) — Compaq Computer Corp. introduced Monday what it said was the world's fastest desktop printer, capable of printing as many as 20 pages a minute.

The company said its \$5,499 Compaq Pagemark 20 is the world's fastest all-around desktop printer — twice as fast on average than Hewlett-Packard CO's LaserJet III.

It also introduced a slightly slower model — the \$3,999 15-page-per-minute Compaq Pagemark 15. The two models, available immediately, are the first product introductions from Compaq's new peripherals division.

Both use the two leading printer languages postscript level two and PCL-5, and can switch automatically between them without any user intervention.

Compaq said the network printer market is growing at 25 per cent a year and that the overall printer market will be \$30 billion by 1995.

It said the Pagemark 20 was designed for departmental networks with more than 20 users, and the Pagemark 15 is aimed for use in design and engineering graphics applications.

Both printers connect directly to Novell Inc. and Apple Computer Inc. networks, the company said, and up to five links can be active at the same time.

## Egypt tiptoes towards privatisation

CAIRO (R) — A senior official in charge of Egypt's vital privatisation programme said Sunday the government was determined not to undervalue assets and jeopardise the long-awaited first sales of public firms.

"We are insisting before we sell any shares that their value (at issue) is the real (market) value," Fouad Abdul Wahhab, chairman of the Public Enterprise Office (PEO), told Reuters in an interview.

But after a year of planning and evaluation of Egypt's hundreds of ailing state firms, businessmen say actual sales would send a signal Egypt is serious about unleashing market forces which would far outweigh any accounting losses.

"We feel its vital (to move) now otherwise it's going to be too late," said Taher Al Sherif, secretary of the Egyptian Businessmen's Association (EBA).

"They must look not only at profit or loss of (individual) sales... They must realise the opportunity cost of losing business confidence."

Privatisation is a key part of an ambitious economic reforms. Egypt worked out last year with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) that aim to end decades of socialist-style central planning and launch a free market economy.

Egypt carried out monetary and fiscal reforms without a hitch, freeing interest and exchange rates last year, cutting its budget deficit and curbing inflation to 9.5 per cent last month despite removing subsidies.

Public sector reforms, which will involve laying workers off,

are bogged down by political sensitivities and because officials trying to implement them are scattered in various government bodies and are not in constant contact.

Mr. Abdul Wahhab said two or three firms from a batch of 20 "candidates" would be sold to the public perhaps before the end of 1992 or early next year.

But he said sales would be hampered and the small investor discouraged with Cairo's stock exchange, dormant since a wave of nationalisations in the 1960s, was revamped to make trading the shares easy and responsive to market fluctuations.

Contact with the Capital Markets Authority (CMA) which controls the stock exchange was not what he had hoped, he said. The PEO reports directly to

Prime Minister Atef Sedki while the CMA falls under Economy Minister Youssef Moustapha.

Each reform measure must also pass through the Office of Minister of Cabinet Affairs Atef Obeid, who suggests administrative and legal frameworks for them, and the ministry of justice where texts for the laws are drawn up.

The EBA's Sherif, representing hundreds of Egypt's most influential businessmen, said a large part of the batch should be sold and the stock market up active before the end of 1992.

If not, businessmen waiting for structural reforms to remove market distortions and start to create an enterprise society, will withhold vital investment in production and Egypt's whole reform programme will run aground, he said.

## Financial Markets

U.S. Dollar in International Markets

Currency	NEW YORK CLOSE Date: 28/8/92	TOKYO CLOSE Date: 31/8/92
Sterling Pound*	1.9830	1.9832
Deutsche Mark	1.7095	1.7103
Swiss Franc	1.2604	1.2683
French Franc	4.8000	4.8040**
Japanese Yen	123.05	123.42
European Currency Unit	1.4330	1.4344**

\* USD Per STG  
\*\* European Opening @ 8:00 a.m. GMT

Inter-currency Interest Rates

Currency	1 MTH	3 MTHS	6 MTHS	12 MTHS
U.S. Dollar	3.43	3.43	3.50	3.62
Sterling Pound	10.06	10.62	10.62	10.68
Deutsche Mark	9.68	9.81	9.68	9.62
Swiss Franc	7.63	7.69	7.69	7.69
French Franc	10.19	10.41	10.53	10.56
Japanese Yen	3.93	3.87	3.75	3.71
European Currency Unit	11.09	11.12	11.12	11.06

Interbank bid rates for amounts exceeding U.S. Dollars 1,000,000 or equivalent.

Precious Metals

Metal	USD/Oz	JD/Gm*	Metal	USD/Oz	JD/Gm
Gold	340.50	6.45	Silver	3.72	1.080

\* 21 Karat

Central Bank of Jordan Exchange Rate Bulletin

Date: 31/8/92

Currency	Bid	Offer
U.S. Dollar	0.633	0.665
Sterling Pound	1.3127	1.3193
Deutsche Mark	0.4690	0.4713
Swiss Franc	0.5244	0.5270
French Franc	0.1377	0.1384
Japanese Yen*	0.5378	0.5405
Dutch Guilder	0.4158	0.4179
Swedish Krona	0.1282	0.1288
Italian Lira*	0.0615	0.0618
Belgian Franc	0.02285	0.02296

\* Per 100

Other Currencies

Currency	Bid	Offer
Baharai Dinar	1.7300	1.7400
Lebanese Lira*	0.0265	0.0295
Saudi Riyal	0.1762	0.1780
Kuwaiti Dinar	2.2300	2.3100
Qatari Riyal	0.1796	0.1810
Egyptian Pound	0.2000	0.2100
Omani Riyal	1.6560	1.7100
UAE Dirham	0.1796	0.1810
Greek Drachma*	0.3720	0.3725
Cypriot Pound	1.6100	1.6300

\* Per 100

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## Nissan to cut workforce over next 3 years

TOKYO (R) — Japan's second largest carmaker, Nissan Motor Co. Ltd., plans to reduce its workforce by 4,000 people over the next three years through natural retirement and reduced recruitment.

Nissan said Friday that slow vehicle sales at home and abroad had forced it to revise forecasts for 1992/93 to a current loss of 15 billion yen (\$121.5 million), down from a May forecast of a 40 billion yen (\$323.9 million) profit and against an actual 87.76 billion yen (\$710.6 million) profit in 1991/92



## Sarajevo calm after yet another bloody Sunday

SARAJEVO (R) — Sarajevo was generally quiet Monday after a weekend of bloody fighting which dented hopes, raised by last week's London peace conference, of an early end to the war in Bosnia.

Apart from some mortar and machinegun fire around the old town before dawn, rival Serbs and Muslims fighting for control of the Bosnian capital gave respite to the 380,000 trapped residents after midnight, local reporters said.

The lull in the fighting came after a shell struck civilians queuing for bread in a crowded open market Sunday, killing at least seven people and wounding scores of others.

Reporters at the blood-spattered scene later counted seven bodies in hospitals and mortuaries. The Bosnian government put the casualty toll at 16 people killed and 78 injured.

It was not clear who was responsible for the attack.

Muslim-controlled local television suggested it proved the Serbs had no intention of complying with agreements reached at the London peace conference last week to hand over their heavy weapons to the United Nations.

The Bosnian Serb leadership denied involvement and accused the Muslim Bosnian leadership of staging yet another massacre to garner world sympathy.

Britain's Independent newspaper reported earlier this month a U.N. memorandum suggesting the May bread queue attack was carried out by Bosnian forces so that blame would be pinned on the Serbs.

Serbs and Muslims reported over the weekend that a four-month Serb siege of the eastern Bosnian town of Gorazde had ended, but the U.N. cancelled a relief convoy to the town at the last minute and the position remained confused.

An official for the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees told Reuters that the Serb military had warned that the situation around Gorazde was "so fluid they would not give us a one per cent chance of getting through."

U.N. sources said they interpreted this to mean that heavy fighting was continuing along the road into the Muslim town.

Gorazde, 60 kilometres south-east of Sarajevo, with a population of 35,000 swollen by a huge influx of refugees, has been virtually cut off since April. It is

believed to be without water, electricity, food or medicines.

Bosnia's Serb leader, Radovan Karadzic, promised in London not to initiate further fighting in Bosnia and said Serb forces would hand over heavy weapons to U.N. control within a week.

But fighting has raged on unabated. Sporadic shelling and heavy gunfire echoed in Sarajevo's Hrasno district throughout Sunday and mortar fire was heavy in the old town at dusk. The headquarters of the U.N. Protection Force (UNPROFOR) was hit by small arms fire.

Bosnia's Muslim President Alija Izetbegovic said in a magazine interview Monday that the West had betrayed its own principles by ignoring its regional problems. "The West's lack of political will is... surprising us unpleasantly," Mr. Izetbegovic told Newsweek in an interview conducted after the London peace talks.

"The West betrayed its own principles. It is fortunate that the West didn't hesitate as much as it is doing now at the beginning of the second world war. We would have Nazi rule in the world."

He accused Serbs of systematically deporting Muslim civilians from north Bosnia to consolidate



A seriously wounded Bosnian soldier is carried to the emergency ward of a hospital in Sarajevo.

Serbian-held territorial corridors to the ramp Yugoslav Federation dominated by Serbia.

Nearly 9,000 people have been killed in five months of fighting in Bosnia-Herzegovina.

Meanwhile, David Owen, new co-chairman of Yugoslav peace talks sponsored by the European Community and the U.N., is to visit Portugal at the start of a European tour to prepare for his task, the Portuguese Foreign Ministry said.

A ministry spokeswoman said Mr. Owen, a former British foreign secretary, would lunch with Portuguese Foreign Minister Joao De Deus Pinheiro before heading for another unspecified European capital.

Portugal, as president of the EC during the first half of 1992, played an important role in coordinating EC policy on Yugoslavia.

"Owen wants to sound us out on what we think about Yugoslavia," the spokeswoman said.

Until last week a senior Portuguese diplomat, Jose Cutileiro, acted as EC peace mediator for Bosnia-Herzegovina.

But Mr. Cutileiro stepped down, along with the former chairman of the EC peace talks for Yugoslavia, Lord Carrington, at a new enlarged Yugoslav peace conference in London, co-sponsored by the EC and United Nations.

## Russia ready to pull out Baltic troops in 1993

MOSCOW (R) — Russia is prepared to withdraw all its 130,000 troops from the three Baltic states next year, a senior Foreign Ministry official said Monday.

The official, who asked not to be identified, told Reuters he had "no official information" that Russian President Boris Yeltsin would make the offer of a 1993 withdrawal to Lithuanian leader Vytautas Landsbergis at a meeting next week.

"The agreement which is being prepared for the Moscow meeting between Mr. Yeltsin and Mr. Landsbergis on Sept. 8 contains that date, 1993," the official said.

Russia had previously insisted it could not start pulling out the troops before 1994.

The Baltic republics — Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia — liken the forces to an occupying army.

If Mr. Yeltsin does propose the new date it will go some way to improving Moscow's rocky relations with the newly independent Baltic states, which want the troops withdrawn quickly.

Lithuanian, where a referendum earlier this year backed the immediate withdrawal of the troops, wants them out by the end of the year.

The Russian official said he hoped that if the Lithuanians

agreed to the 1993 proposal it could set a precedent for similar deals with Latvia and Estonia.

"The Russian side has always been for the solution of this problem as soon as possible," he said.

Russia supported the Baltic republics' independence drive but the presence of the troops has been poisoning relations since the three gained full autonomy last year in the wake of a failed hardline Soviet coup.

Earlier this month Russia proposed a complete withdrawal of the forces in 1994 as long as certain conditions were met.

Moscow says it cannot pull the troops out immediately because there is no accommodation for them in Russia.

It has also demanded special protection for servicemen in the region, an end to demands for compensation and help in building housing for the troops.

Moscow is unhappy at what it calls discriminatory laws on state languages and citizenship rights which, it says, relegate Russians to second-class citizens in the Baltic states.

It says the troops still in the region and their families are demoralised. There have been several clashes, some with firearms, between local police and Russian servicemen.

## Sydney Tunnel opens to ease traffic

SYDNEY (AP) — Sydney residents love the harbour that places Australia's largest city among the world's most beautiful. But many loathe crossing it. Traffic chokes the 60-year-old Sydney Harbour Bridge. A leisurely ferry trip is too slow for rushed commuters. City authorities hope congestion will ease with Monday's opening of a four-lane tunnel stretching along the harbour's muddy bottom. More than 100 cars were lined up on each side of the tunnel to be the first through at 3 a.m. by 1 p.m., about 32,000 cars had used the tunnel. A motorcycle and several cars sneaked through before the link officially opened. Among the passengers in the first paying car was 87-year-old Isabelle Bremner, who was in the second car to cross the Harbour Bridge when it opened in 1932.

## Swedish au pair deported for being wrong sex

LONDON (AP) — A Swedish youth cannot work as a live-in child minder in Britain because he is male, the home office said Sunday, ordering the 19-year-old to leave. An au pair must be "an unmarried girl aged 17-27, inclusive, without dependents," according to immigration rules, a Home Office spokesman said, speaking on condition of anonymity. Johan Egelstedt, 19, does not qualify, and must leave England. "I was amazed, breath-takingly staggered by them saying that we couldn't have a male au pair," said Iain Baughan, who had hired Egelstedt to watch his four children. The Equal Opportunities Commission, in a statement, expressed concern of sexual discrimination. But the Home Office spokesman defended the policy, saying exceptions could lead to abuse.

## Indian state orders probe into village hysteria

NEW DELHI (R) — Psychologists have been sent to a village in northeast India to investigate hysteria — singing, dancing and crying by residents — a domestic news agency said. The United News of India quoted Tripura state Health Services Director K.L. Roy as saying some people in Garo Para village, about 100 kilometres from the state capital Agartala, had been behaving abnormally for several days. They would sing, dance and cry until exhausted as though affected by mass hysteria. This had forced normal people to flee the village in panic, Mr. Roy said. He said two psychologists had been sent to the village to investigate and report.

## London's street carnival gets off to damp start

LONDON (R) — Children in gaudy fancy dress shivered and danced their way through squally showers in London Sunday to open Europe's biggest street carnival. Storm winds, uprooted trees and shattered windows in parts of the city overnight kept many a potential party-goer away from the first day of the annual festival in the western district of Notting Hill. But a thin gathering of determined revellers lined the streets, bobbing to music and blowing on whistles for the 27th Notting Hill Carnival, an exuberant celebration of the culture of the neighbourhood's large Caribbean community. Londoners of all backgrounds traditionally flock to the festival to drink beer, smoke marijuana cigarettes and dance to a mixture of modern disco rhythms and traditional steel bands.

## Pet dog follows master to prison, waits for release

DHAKA (AP) — A pet dog swam three rivers, walked eight miles (13 kilometres) and then kept a week's vigil outside a jail where his master was imprisoned, a newspaper said. When Sohrab Ali was arrested, Ali's dog swam behind the boat that ferried him across the first river to prison, said the independent Sangbad newspaper. The boatman, trying to drive the dog away, hit him on the head with an oar but he kept swimming. At the prison, the dog waited at the gate until his owner was released from a one-week sentence on Aug. 21, the paper reported. The dog often used to cry outside the gate, but it would wag its tail in joy when his master would send it half his prison food," the newspaper said. The dog, whose name was not given, barked in joy and licked Ali's feet when he was freed. Ali was jailed for critically wounding a neighbour in a land dispute in Sherpur district, 130 kilometres north-west of Dhaka, the paper said.

## Fresh violence erupts in German city

BERLIN (AP) — About 150 right-wing extremists tried to storm a home for refugees in the eastern German city of Cottbus for the third straight night but were driven back by police in a three-hour clash, officials said Monday.

The disturbance was part of a weekend of riotous violence that hit about 20 German towns and cities, most of them in the economically struggling east. Officials are bracing for more trouble.

In Berlin, assailants detonated a bomb that damaged a monument to Jews deported to Nazi concentration camps, police said.

The city's Jewish community said there was an "obvious connection" between the attack and the wave of rightist terror. Berlin authorities said an anti-terror was investigating the bombing that took place late Sunday, but did

not say why they suspect.

An unmanageable influx of refugees — so far this year double the record pace of 1991 when 256,000 were registered — has led to the surge in rightist violence, which started with five nights of riots in the northern city of Rostock.

In Cottbus, the rioters hurled stones and small firebombs at police, authorities said in a statement. The rioters also torched a car in Cottbus, near the Polish border about 120 kilometres southeast of Berlin.

The latest trouble in Cottbus began Sunday night and ended early Monday. Sixteen rioters were arrested. None of the approximately 1,000 refugees living in the shelter was reported injured.

However, a woman journalist was injured when one of the rioters shot a blank-firing pistol

near her face, the police said, but provided no further details.

Rightist extremists also had tried to storm the refugee shelter in Cottbus late Friday and Saturday nights.

Most of the attention so far has been focused on Rostock, about 170 kilometres northwest of Berlin near the Baltic coast, where rightists started their rampages on Aug. 22.

The mass-circulation Bild newspaper said Monday that television reporters from the United States and France paid young people in Rostock to give the Nazis' outstretched hand salute before the TV cameras.

"Police are investigating," Bild said in a front-page report.

In Bonn, the government is considering formation of a special police unit to combat right-wing extremism.

## Heavy fighting continues in Georgian autonomous region

MOSCOW (R) — Government troops battled separatist forces in the Black Sea region of Abkhazia Monday for the second straight day, Georgian leader Eduard Shevardnadze said.

"Heavy battles are continuing in the region of Bzyb Gorge," local journalists quoted him as telling the radio in the former Soviet republic.

The Gorge is just south of the town of Gagra, where fighting flared up Sunday despite a ceasefire agreement. Each side accused the other of launching a major offensive.

Mr. Shevardnadze said serious clashes also took place Monday morning near the Gumista River north of the Abkhazian capital Sukhumi, occupied by Georgian troops earlier this month.

The fighting has wrecked the new ceasefire, which had been designed to go into effect Monday.

Mr. Shevardnadze said there were heavy casualties around Gagra and Sukhumi. More than 100 people have been killed in several weeks of fighting between Georgian troops and Abkhazian forces.

Russian Television quoted the Abkhazian parliament as saying at least 35 Georgians had been killed and 150 wounded in the latest fighting.

Mr. Shevardnadze, who sent troops into Abkhazia earlier this

month after the regional parliament effectively declared independence, appealed to the Abkhazian leadership to take all possible measures to stop the fighting.

But he said there was no chance of Georgian forces being withdrawn from the region once the fighting had ended.

"Georgian forces are now on their own territory. Let no one forget that," he said.

Abkhazian leader Vladislav Ardzimba is pushing for more autonomy from the Transcaucasian republic, racked by various ethnic clashes for the last 18 months.

Mr. Shevardnadze said he did not favour an attack on Mr. Ardzimba's headquarters in the coastal town of Gudauta because this would cause great casualties.

Mr. Shevardnadze, facing the worst crisis of his five-month role in Georgia, is due to discuss ways of ending the conflict with Russian President Boris Yeltsin in Moscow Thursday.

"The Moscow meeting will be of enormous importance... I think the results will be positive. I have very high hopes for the meeting," he said.

Georgian Radio earlier said the fighting had quietened after government troops pushed two kilometres into Abkhazian-held territory around the coastal town of Gagra.

## Navy ships steam toward Miami with huge relief supplies

MIAMI (AP) — A convoy of navy ships steamed toward Miami Monday with heavy-duty relief supplies, and authorities feared traffic jams as many businesses called employees back to work for the first time since hurricane Andrew.

Sites were cleared for the army's long-promised tent cities, most public transportation was set to resume, and authorities lifted their order to boil drinking water.

But health fears remained as uncollected garbage rotted in the open air, mosquitoes swarmed over the soggy ground, and about 150,000 people remained without adequate shelter a week after Andrew smashed through south Florida.

On Sunday, residents ran to meet aid trucks on the lawn of a shuttered elementary school in South Miami Heights, grabbing for such items as flashlights, baby

formula and can openers.

The USS Sierra, a destroyer tender from Charleston, carrying 15 tonnes of food and a crew of 1,000, was expected to arrive at 1,000. Three other navy ships were to arrive later in the day, and a fifth was expected Tuesday.

The ships were carrying 2,000 tonnes of relief supplies, including frozen, chilled and dried food, helicopters, construction vehicles, portable water tanks, generators, welding equipment, lumber, linen, heavy plastics, tools and an amphibious construction battalion of 120 people.

Many residents were expected to return to work Monday for the first time since the storm, driving on streets that still lack traffic signals and signs.

"Rush hour in Miami... it's minor disaster when everything is functioning," said detective Donald Blocker of Metro-Dade

Police. "It's going to be a problem."

Florida City, one of the hardest-hit towns nearly 30 miles (50 kilometres) south of Miami, still hadn't received the promised aid tents to house up to 2,500 homeless Sunday. Workers finished bulldozing a campsite and waited impatiently.

Andrew left about 180,000 people without shelter and caused damage estimated as high as \$20 billion. Officials said at least 63,000 homes were destroyed, and more than 600,000 people still had no power.

The number of deaths blamed on Andrew in Florida, Louisiana and the Bahamas rose to 35 Sunday. A 9-year-old girl died from injuries suffered during a house fire caused by a candle, and a man died after being hit in the head by a tree Tuesday while cleaning up debris.

Residents prayed Sunday in the sunlight streaming through damaged church roofs. One service was held at a stadium in homestead, where National Guard Chaplain Matthew Cox preached from behind home plate to about 40 soldiers.

Louisiana residents also prayed in makeshift accommodations. And relief centre reported that appointments had been booked through Wednesday to file applications for checks for rent, groceries, new clothing, emergency home repairs, transportation, household items, prescription drugs and work supplies.

Firefighters in one Louisiana town held a "reverse mardi gras parade." Instead of grabbing trinkets from the marchers, residents gave them relief supplies, including living room sets, televisions, shoes, toys and colouring books.

## Clinton opens air wars with promise of 8 million jobs

LITTLE ROCK, Arkansas (AP) — Democrat Bill Clinton opens the television air wars of the fall presidential race with a commercial pledging to create 8 million jobs, but Republicans say the spot lacks "truth in advertising."

Clinton's campaign released a 60-second commercial Sunday that is set to begin airing Monday in several targeted states. It pushes his achievements as Arkansas governor and says the Democratic nominee's economic strategy would create 8 million new jobs in the first four years.

Mr. Clinton was scheduled to work on state business Monday in Little Rock. Running mate Al Gore had campaign stops to vote-rich California. President George Bush was staying at the White House to keep abreast of hurricane Andrew recovery efforts and Vice President Dan Quayle was headed south for a visit to a space facility in Alabama.

Campaigning Sunday in Monterey, California, Sen. Gore said

the White House could not be trusted on the environment because Mr. Bush has appointed people willing to "ravage and exploit" natural resources.

In another development, the Bush-Quayle campaign late Sunday charged that under Mr. Clinton's leadership, Arkansas for more than six and a half years taxed food stamp purchases by poor people.

"What made governor 'people first' stop taxing food stamps?" Asked deputy campaign manager Mary Malin. "He didn't want to. The federal government forced him to."

Mr. Clinton spokeswoman Avis Lavelle did not dispute the assertion, but charged the Bush campaign was trying to "mislead" voters and cast it as though Mr. Clinton had started the tax. All food in Arkansas fell under state taxes long before he took office, she said.

The Bush-Quayle reelection team said the Democrats' jobs

pledge in the new broadcast advertisement "lies in the face of reality."

"He has absolutely promised \$150 billion in new taxes and \$220 billion in additional government spending, which will wipe out jobs, rather than create them," said Torie Clarke, a spokeswoman for President Bush's reelection campaign.

The 8 million jobs promised in the spot is a new figure for the Clinton campaign. In the past, Mr. Clinton has said his plan to invest \$20 billion in roads, bridges and other projects would create 1 million jobs a year.

Mr. Clinton's communications director, George Stephanopoulos, said the 8 million figure comes from government predictions of how much new employment would come from defence conversion, investment credits for businesses and investment in roads, bridges and other projects.

However, Ms. Clarke said that Mr. Clinton's defence cuts —

which are double Mr. Bush's — would cost 1 million jobs and his health care plan would cost another 700,000. Tax increases on businesses would wipe out another 300,000, she said.

Ms. Clarke said it was credible for Bush to criticize Mr. Clinton's pledge — even though Mr. Bush has fallen way short in his 1988 pledge to create 15 million jobs in the first term — because Mr. Clinton's economic plan won't work.

Apart from the unveiling of Mr. Clinton's new ad, the campaign '92 rhetoric was mostly confined to the television studio Sunday as Mr. Quayle and Sen. Gore argued over taxes.

Mr. Quayle continued a familiar Republican refrain, claiming that Mr. Clinton "is for raising taxes." Sen. Gore returned the fire, reworking Democratic accusations that the Republicans are distorting Mr. Clinton's record.

## TV Goes on Quayle hunt

PASADENA, California (R) — Television stars and executives went on a Quayle hunt at the annual Emmy Awards ceremony, taking revenge for U.S. Vice President Dan Quayle's remarks about the top-rated comedy show Murphy Brown.

"Boy, Quayle's really getting stomped tonight," said comedian Dennis Miller, host of the Academy of Television Arts and Sciences honours ceremony.

The Emmys, television's equivalent of film's Academy Award Oscars, are the highest honour the industry can bestow. Quayle upset the television industry in particular and Hollywood in general when he attacked Murphy Brown's "cultural elite."

The industry's answer was to vote Murphy Brown the outstanding comedy series of the year, and to award its star, Candice Bergen, the Emmy for outstanding actress in a comedy series.

Bergen, who plays Murphy Brown, accepted her Emmy with the words: "I would like to thank the vice president, and I would like to thank the Television Academy and the members of the 'cultural elite' for recognising me and 'Murphy' once again."

Bergen raised howls of laughter when she gave special recognition to the writers and producers, "for not only writing these great words (in the script) but speaking them correctly," a reference to Quayle's much-publicised stammering.

Bergen later told reporters that she had not asked for the mantle of "patron saint of single moms," and said she was not really prepared for it.

Murphy Brown producer Diane English, accepting the Emmy for best comedy, launched a cutting attack on the vice president's assertions that single parents lack family values.

"I would like to thank in particular all the single parents out there who, either by choice or necessity, are raising their kids alone. Don't let anybody tell you you're not a family."

"As Murphy herself said (in the series) 'I couldn't possibly do a worse job raising my kid alone than the Reagans did with theirs.'"

While Murphy Brown walked away with the giants' share of the comedy awards, other big winners were Craig Nelson, voted outstanding lead actor in a comedy series for his role as Hayden Fox in the ABC series Coach, and Christopher Lloyd, outstanding lead actor in a drama series for his guest appearance in the Disney television series, Avonlea.

Northern Exposure, the most nominated show this year with 16 nominations, won the Emmy for outstanding drama series.

The award for outstanding lead



Candice Bergen.

actress in a drama series went to Dana Delany, star of the now-cancelled ABC series, China Beach.

Other award winners included Laurie Metcalfe, who plays Jackie Harris in Roseanne Arnold's hit ABC comedy, Roseanne, for outstanding supporting actress in a comedy series, and Richard Dysart, who plays Leland McKenzie, the tough, no-nonsense boss of a Los Angeles law firm in L.A. Law, for outstanding supporting actor in a drama series.

Valerie Mahaffey won outstanding supporting actress in a drama series for her portrayal of Eve in the offbeat CBS series, Northern Exposure.

British actress Amanda Plummer was voted outstanding supporting actress in a mini-series for her role as Lusia Weiss on NBC's "hall of fame production" of Miss Rose White.